ports Despite his team's strong start, Albany boys hoops coach to retire after season [C1]

Arts Oakland Museum exhibit glimpses the revival of the California condor [C8]

### Bill Wright

# olice hief's ual jobs

lic asked for input nsington's practice mbining chief and

By Justin Hill

# NLINE POLL

# Cerrito re chief as retired

but helped bring edic service to

By Justin Hill

STATE WHITER

CHIIG'S Fire chief, a longtember of the department expensive paramedic seruped bring paramedic seruped

ang about it for quite ite."

dit was always his plan by year's end, and with experiencing good times, dike a good time to go. So the flance Maples hamed interim fire chief. Manager Scott Hanin said is to hire a firm to do a recruitment, probably be next outple of months. On early to say when a dwold be hired, he said.

Ever is hired will have to see the said of t

See SCOTT, Page 8

# Wile introduces green proposal

Newly elected Albany councilwoman seeks task force that will blend economic development, environmentalism

By Justin Hill
STAFF WRITER
In her first Albany City Council meeting since being sworn in, Councilwoman Joanne Wile laid out this week steps for an energy-conservation plan.
The steps — the formation of the Clean and Green Task Force

Wile outlined the steps at Monday's City Council meeting. Fellow council members voiced their support and are expected to officially endorse Wile's plans at the Jan. 8 City Council meeting.

The first step is the creation of a task force. The plan is for the task force to meet January through June, and present a plan of action to the city staff and council no later than July.

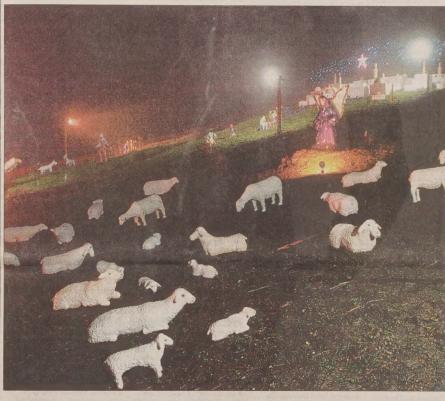
Members of the task force will include Alameda County Supervisor (Fig. 1) and the City needs to be more innovative in generating revenue, said she hopes her ordinator of the Alameda County Supervisor (Wile, who said the city needs to be more innovative in generating revenue, said she hopes her ordinator of the Alameda County Supervisor (Wile, who said the city needs to be more innovative in generating revenue, said she hopes her ordinator of the Alameda County Supervisor (Wile, who said the city needs to be more innovative in generating revenue, said she hopes her ordinator of the Alameda County Supervisor (Wile, who said the city needs to be more innovative in generating revenue, said she popes her ordinator of the Alameda County Supervisor (Wile, who said the city needs to be more innovative in generating revenue, said she popes her ordinator of the Alameda County Supervisor (Wile, who said the city needs to be more innovative in generating revenue, said she popes her ordinator of the Alameda County Supervisor (Wile, who said the city needs to be more innovative in generating revenue, said she popes her ordinator of the Alameda County Supervisor (Wile, who said the city needs to be more innovative in generating revenue, said she popes her ordinator of a task force. The goal is to attract more with a sock green business Program; and city Councilman Farid Javandel.

The goal is to attract more with a sock green business Program; and city Councilman Farid Javandel.

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The goal is to attract more with a sock green business Program; and city Co

### PEACE ON EARTH ...







HE SUNDAR SHADI CHRISTMAS SCULPTURES, recreating the town of Bethlehem during the Nativity, adorn the hillside along Moeser Lane and Seaview Drive last week. The late Sundar Shadi displayed the scupltures in the lot next to his home on the Arlington every year from 1949 until failing eyesight forced him to give it up in 1996. After his death in 2002, the people of El Cerrito decided to keep the tradition alive, with the El Cerrito proprimist club taking over the display. The sculptures are on display every day from 5 to 10 p.m. through Tuesday. Volunteers and donations are also be groupht to help repair and restore the sculptures. To volunteer or get information, call 510-235-1315. To read an editorial about the display, see Page 4.

"quote goes right here and here."

# New instruments are 'band aid' from Rotary Club

By Chris Treadway

By Chris Treadway
STAFF WRITER
The popularity enjoyed by the music program at Portola Middle School in El Cerrito has its downside.

The program is in high demand, with 151 students attending classes, but that takes a toll on the school's stock of aging, deteriorating instruments.

All of the decades-old instruments were lent out at the beginning of the year, said Tiffany Carrico, who is in her third year teaching music at Portola, so if any broke, as the old instruments frequently do, they would end up in the shop for repairs. In the meantime, there were no replacements for students to continue practicing.

The situation was bad enough that two students had to share the school's lone baritone saxophone, and the high cost of new instruments was far beyond the school's budget.

"There was a real need," music parent Gary Aguiar said.
"They were scrimping and hav-



THE PORTOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL music program has new instruments thanks to a contribution from the El Cerrito Rotary Club.

ing cupcake sales to try and buy one instrument."

Aguiar, fortunately, was in a position to help. As the current president of the Rotary Club of El Cerrito, he was charged with coming up with a community ser-

students, Aguiar said. "They were very enthusiastic."

As a result, the program now has 15 new instruments: four flutes, four clarinets, four trumpets, two alto saxophones and, perhaps the most prized of all, one baritone sax.

It couldn't have been better news for the program. "It was a big surprise," said the energetic Carrico, who teaches the beginning, intermediate, symphonic and jazz bands. "It's a wonderful thing."

The Rotary donation went even further because Dick Akright, the owner of A&G Music Products in Oakland, arranged to sell the instruments at cost. As a result, the Rotary Club's \$9,000 donation bought twice as many instruments as it would have otherwise.

For Carrico, who was writing applications for grants from national organizations in the effort to bolster the program, the donation is as good as an early visit

See INSTRUMENTS, Page 8

### Hancock eyes 9th Senate District seat

Former Assemblywoman Chan also has begun campaign for 2008 primary

By Josh Richman

By Josh Richman

MEDIANEWS STAFF

It's never too early to launch
a campaign, or to fold the tent.
Both have just happened in
the state's 9th Senate District,
where Senate President Pro Tem
Don Perata, D-Qakland, will be
termed out in 2008.
Assemblywoman Loni Hancock, D-El Cerrito, has thrown
her hat into the ring for the seat.
Although her Hancock for Senate 2008 committee hasn't accepted any contributions yet, her
2006 Assembly committee still
has about \$85,000 that could be
transferred.
But even with the June 2008
primary still more than 18
months away, she isn't first in
line. Former Assemblywoman
Wilma Chan, D-Oakland, has
See HANCOCK. Page 8

See HANCOCK, Page 8

### At the Library



### Martin Snapp

Children's Fairyland is looking for storybook personalities.

Police Reports	A
Neighbors	
Opinion	
Sports	
Movies	
Ologottola	-



### NEWS/COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Free electronic waste event coming to DMV

A free electronic waste event is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 6 and Jan. 7 at the Department of Motor Vehicles El Cerrito office

Jan. 6 and Jan. 7 at the Department of Confice.

Accepted waste includes computer monitors, computers, computer components, televisions, VCR players, DVD players, toner cartridges, printers, fax machines, copiers, telephone equipment, cell phones and MP3 players.

The event is for residents and businesses of all areas. No appointment is needed.

Unacceptable items include appliances, batteries, microwaves, paints and pesticides.

Those items should be taken to the West County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, 101 Pittsburg Ave. in Richmond. For facility information, call 888-412-9277.

The DMV El Cerrito office is located at 6400 Manila Ave.

Justin Hill

### City offices closed all of next week

El Cerrito City Hall will be closed the week between Christmas and New Year's. It will be open today and will reopen on Jan. 2. For more information call 510-215-4310.

### Finalists picked for tile mural at park

The Albany Arts Committee has selected three finalists for a tile mural project at Terrace Park.

The three finalists, Josef Norris, Martin Webb and Lisa Norman, will submit detailed models as part of project proposals due at the end of January.

During February, the models will be displayed in the lobby of the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., and on the city's Web site.

Web site.

The public will be able to submit written comments in a box that will be located in the lobby with the models. The public can also make comments about the projects by sending an e-mail to albanyartscommittee@albanyca.org.

The Terrace Park art selection panel is scheduled to meet at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Community Center to choose the artist who will receive the commission for the Terrace Park project.

The Arts Committee will consider recommendations of finalists for the Memorial Park public art project at a meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. on Jan. 8 at the Community Center.

For information about all of the park art projects, visit www.albanyca.org/gov/parkart.html.

### Crater expected to be repaired

A 12-foot-deep crater underneath the sidewalk and parking strip on Peralta Avenue near Posen Avenue was expected to be repaired

on Peralta Avenue near Posen Avenue was expected to be repaired this week.

On Saturday afternoon, neighbors reported the appearance of a sinkhole over the creek culvert that caries Cordonices Creek under Peralta, said Albany Public Works Manager Rich Cunningham.

The crater, which did not impede the roadway, was caused by a breach in the culvert, which was built in the 1930s.

"It was just a weak section of the concrete," Cunningham said. It will probably cost no more than \$25,000 to repair the culvert, he said.

The repairs will be made using money from Measure E. a \$96

said.

The repairs will be made using money from Measure F, a \$96 nual parcel tax voters approved in June.

### Council affirms turf removal method

The Albany City Council revisited again this week its decision to remove the turf at the Memorial Park ball field using the excavate-and-off-haul method.

to remove the turf at the Memorial Park ball field using the excavate-and-off-haul method.

The council affirmed its earlier decision.

In March, the council approved the excavate-and-off-haul method to remove the turf.

Then-Mayor Allan Maris requested the topic be brought back at a meeting last month.

At that meeting, Maris made a motion to send the issue back to the Park & Recreation Commission. There was no second.

New Mayor Robert Lieber had requested that the possibility of another option — till, solarization and weed abatement — be reviewed at Monday's meeting. Lieber made a motion to include the method as a bid alternative.

There was no second.

As part of the renovations at Ocean View, Terrace and Memorial parks, the ball field at Memorial will get new irrigation, drainage and turf. Before new sod is planted on the field, the existing turf will have to be removed.

### Man killed by train is identified

Craig Lamm could often be heard screaming at the top of his lungs in People's Park or on Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley, but the 36-year-old-man who was killed by an Amtrak train in Albany last week would stop yelling if you asked him.

Those who knew Lamm on the streets of Berkeley for the past 15 years or so remember him as "sweet," "tortured" or a guy who had "issues."

A memorial is scheduled in the parking lot of St. Mary Magdalen

had "issues."

A memorial is scheduled in the parking lot of St. Mary Magdalen Church at 2005 Berryman St. in Berkeley on Sunday at 2 p.m., said J.C. Orton, a Berkeley homeless advocate.

Albany police say a witness saw Lamm on Dec. 13 bending over as if he was trying to pick something off the tracks when an Amtrak train hit him at 79 mph.

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# No need to keep up with all technologies

: HELP! Technology seems to be trampling all over me (I'm the one still writing checks at the grocery store!) How do you keep up?

A: I certainly hope that many other people feel as I do about this question. And that is: What does it mean? Personally, I pay cash for my groceries. It is a quick and easy method. Since I received this question, I have been doing some inquiring about what it really does mean, and have been given all kinds of information. Interestingly enough, I still don't understand some of it. Let me share.

Apparently, most people pay for groceries by bank card. I don't even have a bank card. My husband uses his occasionally, but I don't have a need to use the ATM. My local bank branch is close and pleasant, rarely has a line, so I just zip in and out if I need cash.

Perhaps the most obvious bit of technology around us is the cell phone. Except for use in a possible emergency, I personally find them detestable and often



CONNIE LYNCH

dangerous. Why must I be subjected to other peoples' conversations everywhere I go? Even on a walk in a beautiful park with scenery that should be thoughly enjoyed, there they are again yakking on cell phones.

again yakking on cell phones.

A number of times I have nearly been hit by a vehicle, both when I am walking and when I am driving. In all cases the driver of the vehicle had a cell phone in hand. On an extremely rare occasion, I saw a vehicle pull to the side of the road to have the conversation. Of that, I thoroughly approve! A law has been passed that,

come 2008, it will be illegal to hold a phone while driving. The technology involving email has certainly been helpful in so many ways. It is so much easier to communicate with friends and family than by writing letters, putting them in envelopes, stamping and sending by regular mail. The computer in general has changed so many things in our lives. Not only are we able to communicate with those we know well, but also with businesses from whom we can order specific products that are difficult to find locally. For example, I buy a special toothpaste online, and it is so much easier than driving some distance to get it from a dentist whom I know carries it. Just because we are getting older doesn't mean that we cannot learn to use computers in many sophisticated ways. My husband did not have computers as a child, and yet he uses them to solve many problems. Some of the problems involve his work that he continues to do, although he has been retired for six years. Other problems

front of a computer for each day, and a computainly does nothing to of the daily chores the carried out in most he

niemw@aol.com. Lynd is the founder of Mind is the journar of Mind mental fitness program signed for older adults the author of "Don't Lo Mind, Four Componen perior Mental Fitness." works.htm. Check ou blog at dlym.blogspo

### ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

### TUESDAY, DEC. 12

■ ACCIDENTS — On Monday and Tuesday there were two reports of cars being hit and damaged by a U.S. Postal truck near San Pablo Avenue and Buchanan Street and on the 600 block of Madison Street. The driver of the truck yelled at the victims. One caller reported that the an employee at the Post Office hung up on them when they called to compale.

- BURGLARS FLEE At about 3:30 a.m., a security guard at 53

### WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13

- AUTO BREAK-IN During the night, someone broke into a white 1991 Jeep parked near Clay and Madi

mina van parked on the 1100 block of Dartmouth Street reported that the car had been stolen between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. A check found that it had been impounded because it was blocking a driveway.

### THURSDAY, DEC. 14

- THIEF At about 9 a.m., a resident on the 1300 block of Marin Avenue reported that a few minutes ear lier her neighbor had seen a person described as a black man wearing a black jacket taking items from her un locked gold 2000 GMC Yukon. He was gone when officers arrived.
- AUTO BREAK-IN Someone stole items out of a silver 1993 Toy-ota parked on the 1000 block of Ma-sonic Avenue.

### FRIDAY, DEC. 15

- REINDEER STOLEN During the night, someone stole two lit reindeer decorations from the front yard of a home on the 900 block of Neilson Avenue. There were no witnesses
- WALLET STOLEN Someone stole a wallet from behind a reception desk of a business on the 1400 block of Solano Avenue. The suspect was gone when officers arrived but the caller was able to give officers a partial description.

■ TRESPASSING — At about 8 p.m., officers responded to the 600 block of Santa Fe Avenue when a SATURDAY, DEC. 16

- SCOOTER STOLEN During the night, someone stole a blue Yamaha scooter parked on the 1100 block of Ordway Street. There were no witnesses.
- VANDALISM Someone "keyed a white 2001 Ford Mustang parked on the 900 block of Fillmore Street during the night. ■ LICENSE PLATES STOLEN — The
- HONDA STOLEN Someone stole a blue 1995 Honda Accord that was parked on the 1100 block of Marin Avenue during the night. There were no witnesses.

### SUNDAY, DEC. 17

■ SHOTS FIRED — At about 7:30 p.m., an employee at a car wash on the 400 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that someone shot out the window of his blue Ford Taurus. He

said that a group of three to five Latino men wearing baggy dot started a fight with him. When he into his car to leave one of the grant fired a round through the driver window and then fled the area. It

### MONDAY, DEC 10

- DISORDERLY CONDUCT about 4 a.m., officers respon

### FRIDAY, DEC. 1

### TUESDAY, DEC. 5

PETTY THEFT— Two people were arrested on suspicion of petty theft and possession of stolen property after a wallet was stolen from a vehicle at the car wash at 10511 San Pablo Ave. about 1:35 p.m.. The pair got onto a bus, according to police. The person whose wallet was taken followed the bus and called police. The bus was stopped at the EI Cerrito Plaza BART station, and the pair was detained.

### FRIDAY, DEC. 8

■ BURGLARY— A house on the 1700 Block of Julian Court was en-tered through an unlocked door and a laptop computer and jewelry were stolen between Dec. 8 and Dec. 13.

### TUESDAY, DEC. 12

outers and jewelry were stolen between about 8 a.m. and about 2:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13

- FORGERY— A 31-year-old Richmond woman was arrested on suspicion of forgery about 10:25 a.m. after she allegedly presented a counterfeit check in the amount of more than \$1,400 at the Bank of America branch, 10422 San Pablo Ave.

   BURGLARY— A dead bolt was pried from a garage door on the 6300 block of Conlon Avenue and a bike was stolen between about 12:30 p.m. and about 5 p.m.

### THURSDAY, DEC. 14

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY — Three high school students were arrested on suspicion of attempted robbery in connection with an incident on Nov. 30 on the Ohione Greenway. The attempted robbery occurred on the path near Hill Street where one of the three people arrested, a juvenile, tried to rip a paper bag out of a person's hands, according to police. A second juvenile hit the person in the back of her head, according to police. The trio were

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recorded by a camera at a nearby store and identified by the person they tried to rob, according to police

### FRIDAY, DEC. 15

■ MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT— A 1996 Honda Civic was stolen from the 2600 block of Tamalpais Drive b tween about 5 p.m. and about 9:30 a.m. the following day.

### SATURDAY, DEC. 16

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT— A
1991 Toyota Camry was stolen from
the 3400 block of Santa Clara Avenue
between about 10 p.m. and about 10
a.m. the following day.

### SUNDAY, DEC. 17

- 2006 Chrysler Pacifica was stolen from Elm Street south of Manor Circle.

  ROBBERY— A contractor was robbed of his laptop, cell phone, wallet and keys about 3:20 p.m. on the 10800 block of San Pablo Avenue. A male, described as white, 5 feet 5 five inches

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Craig Lazzeretti, Hills editor

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### EDITORIAL

TO REPORT AN ERROR: Call the newsroom at 510-262-2724. The Journal strives for accuracy, but should an error occur, a correction will be published in the next edition.

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# Neighbors

# airyland gives kids chance to perform

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read to them, paint
es, show them how to
lefts, and take their
lightly them find their
fithey get lost.

me is running short

MARTIN SNAPP

MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

The deadline to get your child's application in is Jan. 7.
Just download an application from www.fairyland.org.
You can also have one mailed to you by calling 510-452-2259 or 510-238-6878, Ext. 3.

The auditions will be held Jan. 27 and 28, with callbacks on Feb. 4.

"This is not limited to Oakland children," says Eickmann.
"The only qualifications are talent, enthusiasm and the ability to work in a group."

It's a hefty time commitment—rehearsals every third Saturday from March until May, then performances every third Saturday through November.

Speaking of older kids being nice to younger kids, remember those third graders from Prospect Sierra School in El Cerrito, who raised thousands of dollars last year to pay the tuition at the Center for the Education of the Infant Deaf in Berkeley for a 2-year-old boy named Samuel? Now they're in the fourth grade, but they haven't forgotten their little friend—or the organization that serves him.

Last week, two of them, David Langer and Evan Sousa, walled in the Center Office.

Last week, two of them,
David Langer and Evan Sousa,
walked into the CEID office
and plunked down \$250, which
they raised by asking their
family and friends to give them
money for CEID instead of
birthday presents this year.
Two days later, their classmate, Gillie Tilson-Park, donated \$36.30, which she
amassed by saving her pocket
change all year. And she leveraged that into \$72.60 by getting
her parents to match her contribution.
She also donated two boxes

She also donated two boxes

of crayons.

Way to go, kids! You are what the holiday spirit is all about. Merry Christmas.

FACES & PLACES

# 10-year-old gives from the heart

SWEDISH CELEBRATION:
Santa Lucia visited El Cerrito on Dec. 8 in a renewal of Swedish tradition that likewise took place during the month in locations throughout the United States. Santa Lucia Day is Dec. 13; and many Scandinavian families celebrate the tradition, in which the eldest daughter awakens her family, bringing Lucia coffee bread. St. Lucia Day, which is celebrated in schools, offices and homes throughout Sweden, was observed locally in the El Cerrito meeting hall of Framat Lodge, Vasa Order of America, which hosted a Swedish smor-



STRYDER LAFONY, 6 months, isn't happy about being left in the arms of a stranger — even if it is Santa — during breakfast with Santa at the Albany community center on Saturday.

gasbord and Lucia pageant.
Caitlin Whitney, a freshman
at Alhambra High School in
Martinez, was Lucia this year,
and Morello Park fourth-grader
Dallen Graham was named the
Tomte, a gnome or elf who lives
on Swedish farms. The "Legend
of Lucia" was read by Framat
member Joan Graham of Richmond, who is grandmother to

member Joan Graham of Richmond, who is grandmother to Dallen and step-grandmother to Caitlin. The observance included an "allsang," or singalong of Swedish Christmas songs, led by Framat member Marilyn Jackson and Marie Ann Hill of the Tegner Lodge in Oakland and accompanied on piano by Karl Mettinger.

Framat Lodge, which recently celebrated its 85th anniversary as a Swedish-American fraternal organization, is open to anyone interested in Swedish and Nordic heritage and culture. For details, call 510-526-5512.

ANNUAL POETS CONTEST: The Poets Dinner Committee is accepting submissions for its 81st annual poetry contest. The theme for this year is "luck." Other categories are beginnings and endings, humor, nature, love, spaces and places, people, and poet's choice. Poems must be original, unpublished, in English, and not a prize- or honorable mention-winner.

corner of each page. Contest entries should be mailed to Sherry Sheehan, 635 Alhambra St., No. 5, Crockett, CA 94525. The postmark deadline is Jan. 17. The grand prize is \$60. Prizes in each category are \$30, \$20, \$15, plus three honorable mentions.

To claim a prize, the author must attend the awards luncheon on March 17 at Francesco's, 8520 Pardee Drive, Oakland. Lunch tickets are \$26 in advance, \$27 at the door. Specify red snapper, chicken breast or eggplant parmigiana, and send check and order to Richard Angilly, 1515 Poplar Ave., Richmond, CA 94805-1662.

DONATIONS BEING AC-CEPTED FOR COAT DRIVE: Do-

CEPTED FOR COAT DRIVE: Donations for 13-year-old Kensington resident Hannah Kessel's coat drive are now being accepted.

Through Jan. 5, people can donate clean, usable coats by dropping them off at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave; the fire station at 217 Arlington Ave; in Kensington; the fire station at 120 Arlington Ave. in El Cerrito; and the fire station at 2931 Shasta Ave. in Berkeley.

Clean gloves, sweaters and hats will also be accepted. All donations will go to the St. Anthony Foundation in San Francisco to be distributed to homeless or unemployed people.

— Justin Hill



SHAROL NELSON-EMBRY

### Parks ideal for time spent with children

OR MANY FAMILIES, winter break from school is already here. What more priceless, yet affordable, gift to give your family this holiday season than exploring the outdoors together. The East Bay Regional Parks offer nearby opportunities to try new things and explore the outdoors, either with an instructor or on your own.

doors, either with an instructor or on your own.

The parks are a great place to spend an hour or more with children of any age. For very young children, you need not venture far from the parking lot at a regional park to have an exciting outing. Preschoolage children enjoy slow, leisurely walks along easy paths with plenty of time to stop and look closely at bugs, tiny wildlife, animal tracks, and other wonders of nature. A magnifying glass can enhance their exploration, bringing tiny worlds into closer view.

Older kids can help decide which park or trail to visit. Physically challenging adventures or more in-depth knowledge about a subject suits them. Exploring the rocks at Sunol's Little Vosemite in winter can be more fun than a day at Disneyland. Binoculars help bring birds or other wildlife into better view. Learning to use a compass, kids can figure out which direction they're headed on the trail. Simple identification books for plants and wildlife seen along the way make the trip memorable.

By spending time in the parks with your children, you're actually participating in the National Wildlife Federation's "Green Hour" initiative (see www.mwf.org/playoutside/for activity ideas and to post your own suggestions). It's encouraging folks to spend at least one hour a week in the outdoors together. By spending time outdoors playing and exploring, you're helping children to develop healthy connections with nature. You're also taking action to fight the nationwide epidemic of childhood obesity by encouraging exercising and playing outdoors.

Use the regional parks Web site at www.ebparks.org to choose your destination and check on current activities. If you don't have access to a computer, contact the park's public affairs department for a packet of maps to the parks and the "Regional in Nature" activity guide at 510-635-0135.

Do you enjoy meeting peo

OF THE WEEK



rt hair cat, and

Cats: 1-year-old male brown tabby domestic short hair (DSH); 5-year-old female gray/white domestic medium hair (DMH); 5-year-old female

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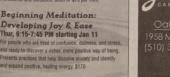
gray DMH; 5-year-old male black/white DSH; 5-year-old male brown tabby Norwegian forest mix; 5-year-old female gray/white DMH; 3-year-old female brown tabby DSH; 5-month-old male black/white DSH; 7-year-old male black/white domestic long hair (DLH); 6-year-old male white DSH; 5-month-old female black/white DSH; 5-year-old female calico DSH; 5-year-old female black/white DSH; 2-year-old male brown/white tabby DSH; 3-year-old male gray/white DSH; 6-year-old male

Adoption fee: dogs \$125; cats \$100 — including spaying, neutering and age-appropriate shots.

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There is an overnight hold period. The Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society is located at 2700 Ninth St., Berkeley. Its hours are 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Information: www.berkeleyhumane.org or call 510-845-7735. Fine Homes By:

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# THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should a government without newspapers, or newspape without a government, I should not hesitate a  $m_{\rm t}$  to prefer the latter."

EDITORIAL

# Legacy on hill shows good will toward all

Editor's note: With the Shadi sculptures once again lighting up the night sky on an El Cerrito hillside, we are updating and repub-lishing an editorial that appeared last year on why this beloved tra-dition represents the true meaning of the holiday season. We wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

all our readers a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

VEN THOUGH he died four years ago, Sundar Shadi's legacy still burns bright this time of year in the El Cerrito hills. And with that legacy comes an important message about the meaning of Christmas.

Shadi was the beloved figure who dazzled generations of East Bay residents each year from 1949 until 1996 with his spectacular Christmas display along his sprawling hill-side yard on the Arlington. After his death, the people of El Cerrito resurrected the display by restoring the Shadi sculptures and returning them each December to the corner of Moeser Lane and Seaview Drive.

Holiday displays this time of year usually feature the likes of Santa, elves, reindeer and snowmen. But Shadi's display was truly in the spirit of Christmas, with shepherds, angels, camels, sheep, wise men and, of course, Mary, Joseph and Jesus. It told the story of the Nativity in brilliant fashion. The remarkable thing is Shadi wasn't Christian. He was Sikh. As former El Cerrito Mayor Jane Bartke explained: "This holiday display was his Christmas gift to his neighbors and his city, which he loved so much."

His display was also a lesson for those who like to argue this time of year about whether it is best to wish someone "Merry Christmas" or "Happy Holidays." Christmas should be a time when we embrace the universal values of good will and peace on Earth, rather than provide more fodder for conservative and liberal political pundits to pull us apart.

Shadi understood that. He embraced the holiday to an

more fodder for conservative and liberal political pundits to pull us apart.

Shadi understood that. He embraced the holiday to an extent many Christians never come close to even pondering. He understood that the message of Christmas could resonate with people of all faiths and walks of life. His Nativity scene was the ultimate message of inclusiveness and tolerance in a society that too often pays little respect to ance in a society that too often pays little respect to

It would be nice if all those who prefer to spend the holi-

It would be nice if all those who prefer to spend the holiday season engaging in petty arguments over semantics could tour the Shadi display and learn the story of the man and these sculptures. It's ironic that a non-Christian was able to remind Christians why they celebrate this holiday.

Sadly, the true meaning of Christmas was diminished long before we started arguing over the phrases "Merry Christmas" or "Happy Holidays." How else can you explain a situation where companies capitalize on the story about Jesus' birth in a stable by convincing us to go out and buy a luxury sedan or diamond ring for a loved one? Malls have come to play as large a role in the celebration of the event as churches.

We can all learn an important lesson from Shadi's Nativity scene. Let's put aside the bickering and last-minute Christmas shopping to focus on what that display in the hills represents for all of us, regardless of our faith or background.

Peace on Earth and good will to all.

### YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

### Assembly

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albary, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-360; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

Joe Wallace: Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda count E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; pho 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7689.

### Stege Sanitary District

e 510-524-4668 or s stegesd.dst.ca.us.

### **County Supervisors**

John Gioia: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us. Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak

### **East Bay Park District**

Nancy Skinner: Ward No. 1. (Albany Berkeley, Emeryville, El Cerrito, El Sc brante, Kensington, a portion of Oak land, a small part of Pinole, Rich-rnond, and San Pablo). E-mail: nskinner@ebparks.org

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany. 510- 528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District ngton Blvd. 510-527-8395 Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246 Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

### NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

### City government

ALBANY City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Ave. 510-528-5710

5710
Mayor Robert Lieber
City Council — Meets at 8 p.m. the first
and third Mondays at the City Hall
Council Chamber.
Community Development — Includes
planning, building and maintenance.
510-528-5760

Web site: www.albanyca.org EL CERRITO City Hell

EL CEHn.
City Hall, 10940 San r.
510-215-4300.
Mayor Letitia Moore
CIty Council — Meets at 7:30 p.m. the
first and third Mondays in the Garden
Room of the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. 510-215-4305.
Public Works — Report problems with
city frees and sidewalks, burned-out
street lights, potholes and clogged
storm drains. 510-215-43362.

Lane, 510-215-4350.

Web site: www.et-cerrito.org
(ENSINGTON
Municipal Advisory Council — Meets
at 7:30 p.m. the last Tuesday of each
month in the Kensington Community
Center, 59 Ardington Ave. Addresses
zoning and land-use issues. 510-526

5546. Dilice Protection and Community Services District — Meets at 7:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month, except August, at the Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. Addresses Police Department, Parks and Recreation and solid waste issues. 510-526-4141. Meets at Protection District — Meets at

510-526-4141.
Fire Protection District — Meets at 7:30 p.m. the second Wednesday each month at the Community Cer 59 Arlington Ave. 510-527-8395.

### **Emergency numbers**

lbany, El Cerrito or Kensing police or medical; 911.

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

### LAST MINUTE GIFT LIST ADDITIONS?

For Christmas, I'm asking for the partridge in a pear tree.



Me? I'm going for the two turtle doves No tree climbing and twice as many birds.



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Time to fight global warming

I am writing as a lifelong citizen of California. I have been following the status of California's involvement in the fight for environmental justice.

While I was disappointed Proposition 87 did not pass in November's election, I was similarly thrilled by Governor Schwarzenegger's signing of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, cutting California's carbon dioxide emissions drastically by 2025.

As California is a proud leader in the fight against global warming, then citizens of this beautiful state should just as proudly stand behind Rep. George Miller, D-Martinez, and Speaker-elect Nancy Pelosi, D-San Francisco.

Pelosi's agenda in her first 100 hours of Congress is honorable, including cutting the incredible amount of tax refunds the oil companies have been receiving for the last six years of the Bush administration.

There is a possibility the oil companies will receive more than \$31.6 billion in tax breaks and relief from our government for exorbitant things such as relief from paying royalties to drill on public lands and paying their employees wages and other intangible drilling costs.

I am appalled by the Bush administration's grievous misuse of the tax budget to further the oil companies' profits.

Now is the time for us to stand with Miller and Pelosi to cut these tax breaks and use the money to fight against global warming.

Brooke Haley Albany

### God help Robert Gates

Before new Defense Secretary Robert
Gates can even begin to set policy for
Iraq, he needs to help President Bush discover a new way of thinking about Iraq.
Gates should put it in terms the president can find acceptable, namely, that even
God is not able to prevent evil in the world.
Then Gates needs to deal with Vice
President Cheney. God help him!

Brian Nelson
El Cerrito

### Successful safety training

On Nov. 28, the Richmond Crime Prevention Program sponsored two safety training classes for taxi drivers who work in the greater Richmond area.

The program seeks to find immediate solutions to some of the safety issues raised by the recent taxi driver homicides. This dialogue is part of an ongoing effort to establish a partnership between taxi drivers in the community and local law enforcement.

Drivers from local Sith Model.

to establish a partnership between taxi drivers in the community and local law enforcement.

Drivers from local Sikh, Muslim and various other communities were in attendance at both trainings.

Some concerns had been expressed that many drivers were not included at a previous forum presented by a different group, which was held at a private location. However, all local taxi drivers were invited to the crime prevention trainings, held at a Richmond community center.

Personnel from the Richmond Police Department and the El Cerrito Police Department fered in-depth training presentations. Taxi drivers got an opportunity to voice their concerns and receive feedback on how to prevent work-related crimes. Police personnel also distributed helpful safety literature.

The trainings were very successful! The Richmond and El Cerrito police departments sent exceptional personnel. Muslims, Sikhs and taxi drivers from all different backgrounds sat side by side,

### Stop complaining

What's all this crying about discrimination, name-calling, sexual harassment, and complaining about how much money another person makes?

Back in Louisiana in 1942, we had discrimination. We do not have discrimination before here.

Back in Louisiana in 1942, we had discrimination. We do not have discrimination here.

When I was younger, if a guy did or said something inappropriate, I would slap his face or tell him to stop. I did not go crying to my boss or to a lawyer.

Call me any name you want! It's your problem, not mine. Names will never hurt me. Crying about how much money our county supervisors make is ridiculous.

Supervisor John Gioia only makes \$60,000 per year. We should be ashamed to pay him so little. He works like a dog, 24/7. We complain that he is not worth \$95,000; yet, he is responsible for 200,000 citizens in his district. He also is responsible for thousands of county employees and billions of tax dollars. That is a big job!

Gioia should be paid \$2 for every citizen in his district, which equals \$400,000 per year. Let's get real!

### Arrogant board

The members of the West Contra Costa school board are continuing with business as usual.

Cost over-runs and arrogantly electing to build an \$18 million swimming pool over the objection of the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee — and at the expense of more important projects — is mind-boggling.

I voted for the last bond measures, with much trepidation because of the board's reputation. Next go-around, count me in the "no" column.

James Jenkins

James Jenkins Pinole

### Self-appointed critics

I am again amazed and appalled by the conduct of some in this country who insist that their personal way of wor-shipping is the "one true way," and that the rest of us are wrong, or deluded or heathens, or worse. Sounds a lot like what Americans are trying to avoid by

# WRITE TO THE JOURNAL

Letters to the editor and guest commen-taries reflect the opinion of the writer and must include the author's first and last name, address and daytime phone num-ber. All letters are subject to verification.

Letters are subject to editing for brevity, grammar and style. Not all letters may be published.

Mail: 4301 Lakeside Dr., Richmond, CA

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Write JOURNAL LETTERS on the em-lope, at the top of the fax or in the su-field of the message. Please e-mail le directly, not as attachments.

intently receiving vital information that can save their lives.

All drivers who attended expressed warm appreciation for the time taken by the Richmond Crime Prevention Program, the Richmond Police Department and the El Cerrito Police Department, who carefully addressed these safety issues.

Felicia Taylor

Richmond

Taylor is a representative of the Richmond Crime Prevention Program.

What do you suppose Jesus would say about the conduct of these self-appointed critics?

### Another 'good job'

Another 'good job'

George Bush said, upon John Bolton' resignation, that he had done a good job for the country as U.N. ambassador.
What constitutes a good job in Bush's judgment? Remember "Heck of a job Brownie," who headed FEMA when Hurricane Katrina struck?
What about his dogged support of Donald Rumsfeld as secretary of defense while Iraq plummeted into chaos?
Rumsfeld, Cheney, Wolfowitz and the rest of the neocons had advocated Saddam Hussein's overthrow since at least 1997. You'd think that when they finally were a position to manufacture an opportunity to do so, they would have had a better plan. As we know, Bush values loyally owe competence, and our country suffers the consequences.
In six years, thousands of innocet people have been killed unnecessafily, our national debt's beyond comprehession; we're hated worldwide; and the gip between rich and poor continues to gow. As Constance Rice, co-director of the Advancement Project, has said, "When you lose your middle class, you lose your democracy." (Rice is a cousin of Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.)

The damage Bush can do to American two more years is frightening considering the unrest his policies have created through out the world, especially in the Middle Eus.

Marion A. McInite Richmond

### The pots we broke

The pots we broke

The political landscape's quivering with anticipation.

Voices emanate from federal legislators and the loudest, or at least those given accommodation in the media, come from leaders of the party that attained majority in the last election.

Alas, regarding what to do about the mess in Iraq, these legislators aren't in harmony. Some say leave; others say leave bit by bit. Others say leave, but firs stop the civil war; others say divide Irag and leave. Others want to win, to send more troops, and blah, blah, blah.

This cacophony doesn't depress mearly as much as the underlying amb gance, paternalism and Pilate-like washing of hands.

Forget why we invaded Iraq. We dit. Using Colin Powell's simile, we broke the pot. Most of what's being said now amounts to picking up the pieces and giving the pot back together, one way or the there, even if the pieces don't fit—which means by force, if necessary.

If I entered a home without being ivited and broke a pot, my mother would say, "Apologize, make restitution and gout of there!"

Oh, how I wish for a legislator to demand the 110th Congress behave as mother would want me to behave.

Marvin Chacheff San Pable

Editor's note: Some of these letters at reprinted from editions of the Confine

Editor's note: Some of these letters reprinted from editions of the Con Costa Times.

# ERRITO SCHOOL NOTES

formation, call the Harding office at 510-231-1413.

INDERGARTEN TOUR: The next kindergarten tour will be Friday, Jan. 26 at 9 am. in the school library. A staff/parent presentation, complimentary coffee and pastries will be provided by Starbucks and the Weil Grounded Coffee and Tea Bar. Please RSVP to the school office at 510-231-1413 if you plan to attend. Parents who wish to visit upper grades are invited to an evening open house in May.

### El Cerrito High School

SOCCER FUNDRAISER: The EI Cerrito High School girls soccer teams are hosting a pasta dinner fundraise. Saturday, Jan. 13 at the Kensington Youth Hut. Tickets are \$12 each or four for \$40. There are two seatings available: 5-63 pp.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. For more information or to pur-chase tickets, contact Rosaline Soneda at 510-237-3847 or rson-ed@sbcglobal.net or Hallie Fried-man at 510-232-0536 or hallief@ya-hoo.com. There will be raffle and door prizes as well.

and three wisory class. Auditions for this vear's school play will take place the week after winter break. There will be reading and singing auditions. This year's play is called "The Prince's Pride," a parody of "The Princess Bride" and "American Idol." More information will follow.

**Cornell Elementary** 

# NY SCHOOL NOTES Curriculum Committee (1), Wellness Committee (1) and the Health Summit (2), If you are interested or you have questions about what this entails, please e-mail Principal Robin Davis at robind@albany, k12 c.a.us or call secretary Jazz at 510-558-3615. YEARBOOK COPIES: You have only a few more days to reserve your 2007 copy of the AMS yearbook at the discount rate of \$28. In January, the price goes up to \$35. This year's year-book will be bigger, with more color pages. Information and forms have gone out. The absolute last day to reserve a yearbook is Monday, Jan. 29, There will be no yearbooks solid after that date. Get your orders in now. Please remember that all order forms and money should be turned into Advisory class.

### die School

Cornell Elementary

NOON CRAFT ACTIVITIES: Starting the last week in January, Cornell would like to continue the indoor noon craft activities started by exchange student volunteers from Ryukoku University in Japan. No experience is necessary. If you are interested or have questions please call Bob Kelly-Thornas at 510-558-3700.

BOOK WISH LIST. A library book wish list has been posted to the etree. This list consists of book titles remaining from the list that Mare Staton, the school librarian, prepared for the Albary Education Fundraiser at Barnes and Noble earlier this month. If you'd like to deduct your book donation on your tax return, please donate the book to the PTA, which will give you a donation receipt and pass the book to the office. Please let the PTA know if you buy a wish list books to that it can update the list on the etree. E-mail Albany school notes to Bob Menzimer at megabob@pacbell.net

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# Librarians must know more than one trade

"Julie, we're still open! The Mayor launched a campaign to keep us afloat. ...We were oper-ating on a tight budget, but we ARE OPEN!!"

ARE OPEN!!"

E-mail from Katharine
Dixon in response to Dec. 15
column in which the closure of
the Salinas Public Library was
cited in a report about attitudes
toward libraries (my apologies
to the library)

NE ASPECT OF my job is setting up the meeting room for various events. This includes making sure the chairs and tables are where they should be — usually with the able and cheerful help of one of the pages. It also means getting ready any audio-visual equipment— a microphone, movie screen, DVD player, projector or laptop computer.

As far as I know, there is no class in library school that prepares future librarians for these kind of practical, hands-on daily requirements. Two weeks ago, when I was trying to remember which cable connected the projector to the laptop, Michelle — that day's speaker — commented on the varied aspects of my job. It made me stop and think about what I do



during the day, besides recommend books to young readers
and their parents.

The computer is a large part
of my job. I use it to send and
receive e-mail, of course. In addition, I use it to create fliers,
send out press releases, order
books, do my timesheet, download library forms and write.

This means I have to be
comfortable with a word processing program (I use Microsoft Word), a graphics program (Print Shop) and an
e-mail program (Outlook).
And although I use an Apple
computer at home, I use a PC
at work — so I have to be
bilingual, I guess you could
say.

Several years ago, I re-

say. Several years ago, I re-searched digital cameras and

helped choose one for my library. Consequently, I take most of the photographs with that camera, and then either send them, save them or print them — which means I need to understand how to do all of those tasks. Each one of them has a learning curve — the software alone (Photoshop) can be challenging. Not to mention crawling behind my CPU to attach the card reader for the camera, since my computer doesn't have an active USB port on the front of it.

When I started this job, I didn't really know that much about computers, especially PCs. I had barely used e-mail, so I wasn't comfortable attaching a file or figuring out where one downloaded. I had never set up an e-mail distribution list, printed envelopes using my printer, or even changed the settings on my printer.

I probably didn't know what any of those meant.

Over time, I have figured them out. I have become as comfortable with right-clicking as I have using the scroll wheel on the mouse. In fact, I can exchange one mouse for another one, as well as disconnect a

computer and reconnect it again. I can stand behind a library patron and talk him or her through the process of saving a document onto a disk, or downloading a photograph or signing up for a free e-mail account. I always start out by saying I can't promise anything, but that I will try to help—and most of the time, I can.

This is amazing to me. I was a child who liked to figure out how things work, and I am still that way. Yet computers can seem daunting, especially if you don't speak the language—CPU, C-drive, USB port, memory, RAM, hard drive and more. I am motivated by need, though—the daily needs of our library users.

If someone wants to set the margins on a resume save if

our library users.

If someone wants to set the margins on a resume, save it on a disk and then send it as an attachment to a job application, I want that person to succeed. It is part of being a modern librarian, and I take that seriously.

Reach librarian Julie Winkel-stein at jwinkelstein@acli-brary.org or at the Albany Li-brary, 510-526-3720, Ext, 17. Read past columns at www.juliewinkelstein.com

### LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

### **Albany Library**

1247 Marin Ave. 510-526-3720 or www.aclibrary.org

Hours: Mondays, noon to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednes-days, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, closed; Satur days, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sundays, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

p.m. to 5 p.m.

The library presents featured poet fracy Koretsky from 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 4. Koretsky has won acclaim for her essays, fiction and poetry, including a PEN award and three Pushcart nominations. Koretsky is also on the staff of the online journal Triplopia. She will read poetic passages from "Ropeless," a novel that offers perspectives on disability, and will premiere new poetry and work from her latest collection, "Even Before My Name."

Belofe My Natire The library presents a drop-in po-etry-writing workshop from 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 10, with Ali-son Seevak. Seevak is an Albarry poet and teacher who has taught writing to children and adults at schools and community arts centers throughout the Bay Area.

The library's evening book group will meet monthly on Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. beginning Jan. 17. All the books are novels, and the theme is "The American Experience." Readers are invited to attend any or all of the meetings. The schedule of books and meetings are as follows: Jan. 17 — "Snow Falling on Cedars" by David Guterson; Feb. 21 — "The Namesake" by Jhumpa Lahiri; March 21 — "Tortilla Curtain" by T. Coraghessan Boyle; April 18 — "Devil in a Blue Dress" by Walter Mosley; May 16 — "Digging to America" by Anne Tyler.

■ The library offers free legal assistance through a program with the Alameda County Bar Association. Appointments may be made for a 15-minute consultation with an attorney to advise you of your options, get you started or make a referral. Advance registration is required by signing up at the library's reference desk, or by calling \$10-526-3720, Ext. 5. This program is on the first Tuesday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Dates for 2007 are: Jan. 2, Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, May 1 and June 5.

Weekly sing-alongs with Dale Boland are held Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. The sessions are free and for all ages. No registration required.

ages. No registration required.

The library offers free drop-in homework help for students in third through fifth grades. The homework center is open Tuesdays and Thursdays (except county holidays) from 3 to 5 p.m. Emphasis is placed on math and writing skills. No registration is required.

Readers with the Great Books Discussion club meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 1-2 p.m. to discuss selected books on this year's theme of parent and child. Drop-ins are welcome.

■ Drop-in knitting groups for all ages are held Mondays at 3:30 p.m. Instructions, yarn and needles are provided for library projects. No registration is necessary.

### El Cerrito Library

Holiday Street Fair

Saturday
Sunday
Saturday
Saturday
Saturday
December 10th
Saturday
December 17th
Saturday
Saturday
Saturday
December 23rd
December 24th
Sounday
December 24th

Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

6510 Stockton Ave. 510-526-7512 or www.ccclib.org

Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, closed; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, 1 to 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you would like to learn about the Internet or basic word processing, the library offers hourlong appointments Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Internet docents will help you learn as much as you would like. Call the library to make an appointment.

### **Kensington Library**

61 Arlington Ave. 510-524-3043 or www.ccclib.org

510-524-3043 or www.ccclib.org
hours: Mondays and Tuesdays, noon
to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, closed; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, 1 to 5
p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ Local author Phyllis Whetstone Taper will read from her novel; 'O'r
kelsey Creek,' and talk about life in
1920s Lake County at 7 p.m. Jan. 8.

■ The library offers store times for

■ The library offers story times for babies and toddlers at 10:30 a.m. on Thursdays from Jan. 11 to Feb. 15.

■ The library offers family story time at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays from Jan. 2

See LIBRARY, Page 8

## Albany

Albany Senior Center — Weekdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 846 Masonic Ave. Papier mache, bridge, chess. Traditional circle dance class for women of all ages, 10:15-11:30 a.m. Wednesday; \$5. 510-524-9122.

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

### El Cerrito

Christ Lutheran Senior Center — Mondays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 780 Ashbury Ave. Conversational German and Span ish, computers. The center will be close Monday, Christmas Day. 510-524-1050.

Monday, Christmas Day, 510-524-1050.
■ St. John's Senior Center — Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 6500 Gladys Ave. Tai chi, sit-down exercises, conversational Spanish. The center will be closed Tuesday, 510-237-3808.
■ The Open House — Mondays-Thursdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Fiddays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. 6500 Stockton Ave. Writing and language programs, support groups, health insurance counseling. 510-215-4340.

### Kensington

■ Kensington Senior Activity Center — Thursdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 510-526-9146.



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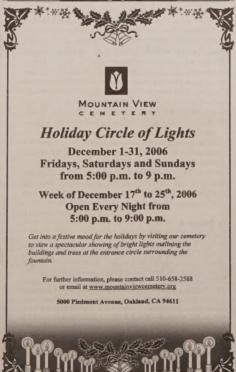
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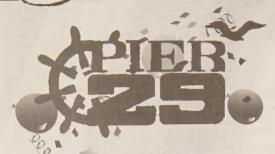
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**Fri-Sat** 4:30-10:00pm



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Open 7 Days a week. Please see our website <a href="https://www.delnavio.com">www.delnavio.com</a> for hours. Del Navio is a family owned, neighborhood restaurant serving Northern Italian cuissine with Spanish influences. Early Bird Special daily 4:30-5:45 for \$16.95. Patio dining areas. Full bar. Private rooms available for parties of all sizes. Children's menu. Dog friendly patio dining. Weekend Brunch.

### Juanita's

Junita's has been serving home style Mexican cooking since 1975 to generations of Bay Area diners. Patrons enjoy a margarita or cold cerveza at Juanita's with their choice of delicious Mexican appetizers and entrees. Including everyone's favorite - tacos, enchiladas, and fajitas. AC \$\$ FB W.

### **Banana Blossom Thai Cuisine**

4228 Park Blvd., Oakland • (510) 336-099

Banana Blossom Thai Cuisine is located in Glenview Village, close to the Montclair and Piedmont areas. Our modern Thai restaurant showcases street-side eateries from Thailand with a relaxed atmosphere and trendy decor. Banana Blossom is a perfect place to meet and chat over a meal. The chef/owner, with over a decade of experience, uses his talent to blend Thai cooking techniques with local ingredients to create delectable dishes including: Green Mango Salad, Chili Crusted Calamari, Spicy Salmon Roll, Kabocha Squash Curry and Ginger Mango Prawns, just to mention a few. Banana Blossom Thai Cuisine is open Sunday through Thursday 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday 4:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Visit us at 4228 Park Blvd., Oakland, or at www.bananablossomthai.com for menu and directions.

### Samurai Sushi Boat

3336 Grand Ave. – Oakland near Grand Lake Theater (510) 419-0601
Samurai Sushi Boat Restaurant features innovative sushi items while
keeping firmly to our traditional roots in Japanese cuisine. Sushi is
served fresh off the boat or made to order. Our Grand Avenue Roll and Lion King Roll are good examples of our innovative approach to sushi. Our expert chefs with the freshest fish prepare traditional sashimi, gourmet sushi platters and more. All items can be ordered from the bar or a table as featured on the boats. Another exclusive from the bar or a table as featured on the boats. Another exclusive innovation is our unique cover system, which maintains freshness and healthiness. This is just one aspect of the excellent service that we proudly provide. Unlike other typical Japanese restaurants with cramped quarters we pride ourselves on our volume ceiling, wide walkways and comfortable seating arrangements. We even have an upstairs parry room with karaoke for up to 50 people. Sushi boat dining can be an intimate experience shared with friends or a social experience among strangers who can become new friends. Quick bite and lunch specials help people on the run for an event or to get back to work fast with affordable boat items as well as bimonthly specials. Check out our wide array of chilled or hot sake selections. With over 17 years of restaurant experience, the owners have learned that excellence goes beyond the bar or the kitchen. We also provide a community network board for our customers to form new or wider community network board for our customers to form nev community network board for our customers to form new or wider networks and to show our appreciation for their presence. Enjoy the best Enjoy Samurai Sushi Boat Restaurant today. Samurai Sushi Boat Restaurant is open from 11:30am-10pm Monday through Friday and from 5pm-10pm Sunday at 3336 Grand Avenue in Oakland just north of the Grand Lake Theatre. Call us at (510) 419-0601.

La Pinata 3
1440 Park St., Alameda (510) 769-9110

La Pinata 3 has been indulging the Bay Area since 1978 with authenti delicious Mexican cuisine. In 2005, La Pinata 3 introduced its Taco Ba offering authentic Mexican tacos prepared the old-fashioned way, wit traditional ingredients. In addition to Pinata 3's impressive menu, includin Albondiagas (meat ball soup), traditional Mexican breakfasts, and the famow Whole Red Snapper, delectable homemade pastries (dessers) and after dina drinks are not to be missed. Perhaps most impressive about La Pinata 3 is to popular Tequila Bar. Serving the largest variety of 100% Agave requilas Alameda, and perhaps the entire East Bay, the tequila bar at La Pinata 3, guaranteed to turn you in to a return guest. La Pinata 3 is open daily from a.m. to 3 a.m., and Happy Hour is from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday throw Friday. Weekend Special and a \$9.95 Sunday Brunch are also availab www.lapinata.com, (Look for La Pinata #6 opening mid-August in Conco with two tequila barat)

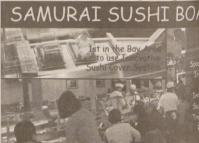


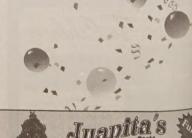
2820 Mountain Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94602 (510)482-2500 www.delnavio.com

Early Bird Special daily 4:30-5:45pm for \$16.95

Please ask about our Happy Hour pizza special 4-6p









Open Christmas Eve Holiday Tamales
Call to place your order not
Catering/Banquet Facility
Family Get Together

1324 Park St., Alameda 865-2588



**Meat Entrees** 

Prime Rib New York Steak Teriyaki New York Blue Cheese New York Peppercorn New York Petite Chateaubriand Teriyaki Filet Mignon Blue Cheese Filet Mignon Veal Marsala Veal Scallopini Chicken Marsala

Teriyaki Chicken

Chicken Scallopini

Pier 29 Pork Loins

Lamb Shank Party of 6 or more will add 15% gratuity to the check. Split plate charge 3.00 Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

**Fish Entrees** 

Teriyaki Salmon

Salmon with lemon caper sauce

Petrale Sole Almondine

Pan Fried Petrale Sole

Petrale Sole with Crab & Shrimp sauce

Snapper with lemon butter caper sauce

Blackened Sand Dabs marinated in Cajun spice

Sand Dabs with lemon butter caper sauce

### Captain's Choice

Petite Lobster Tail 5 oz. (Australian Allow 20

Petite Lobster Tail Combo With choice of New York Steak, Prime Rib, or Teriyaki Chicken

Petite Lobster Tail & Teriyaki Filet Mignon

Lobster Tail 12 oz. (Australian) Allow 25 minutes

**Lobster Tail Combo** With choice of New York Steak, Prime Rib, or Teriyaki Chicken

Lobster Tail & Teriyaki Filet Mignon

# Price \$1595 & Up

**House Specialties** 

Served with a small green salad (small Caesar salad \$1.50 extra) and garlic bread

Steamers Bucket of steamed clams in white wine garlic clam juice

Captain's Stew Combination of seafood, shrimp, crab, fish, scallops, prawns & clams in white wine garlic clam juice

Fisherman's Stew Combination of seafood, shrimp, crab, scallops, clams, prawns & fish in rich tomato basil broth

### **Seafood Entrees**

Crab Cakes Captain's Plate Fisherman's Plate Seafood Sauté Grilled Scallops **Golden Fried Oysters Grilled Prawns** Golden Fried Prawns

Charbroiled Prawns on a skewer Scampi Supreme

Pan Fried Oyster





Hors D'oeurvres from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dinner Served from 3 to 10 p.m.

obster, Steak, Prime Rib, Lamb, Fresl Fish, Oysters, Scallops, Clams, Pasta, Salad and More.

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\$29<sup>95</sup> Per Person

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Soup, Dungeness Crab & Bay Shrimp
ockfail, Angus Prime Rib & Charbroiled
Jumbo Prawns Combo Plate
Dessert: Chocolate Moussecake
New Years Days
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Brunch Served Until 3 p.m.

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1148 Ballena Blvd., Alameda 510-865-5088 • 510-865-5086 www.pier29restaurant.com

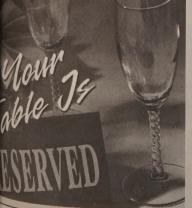


da Location Overlooking Water



Business Hours Sunday -Thursday From II:00 AM to 10:00 PM Friday & Saturday From II:00 AM to 10:30 PM

510-865-0999



Viva Voce Café

As a compliment to La Veranda Café in Clayton, CA, which has enjoyed a great reputation for four years strong. Viva Voce Café opened its doors three months ago in Montclair, and we are enjoying it a great deal. Viva Voce Café is an inviting restaurant with friendly service and a refreshing atmosphere – offering a well-diversified affordable menu that you can enjoy every evening, along with a variety of seafood and meat specials of the highest quality. As quoted by Diablo Magazine: "This is no spaghetti-and-red-sauce throwback. The quality of food sets it apart." Or about our homemade Gnocchi: "I take an inventory of each little dumpling, as the parmesan cheese begins to melt. I cat all of them, then use my bread to wipe up every drop of sauce."

them, then use my bread to wipe up every drop of sauce."

Pler 29 Waterfront Restaurant
MOVED TO NEW LOCATION
1148 Ballena Blvd., Alameda (510) 865-5088
Pier 29 Restaurant has recently moved to a beautiful new location at Ballena Bay in Alameda. The restaurant is uniquely located between the San Francisco Bay and the Ballena Bay Marina. It is conveniently accessible with plenty of free parking. A new exciting addition is the outdoor seating patio which overlooks the marina. There is a view of the water from every table inside or out. The new Pier 29 continues its reputation for good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere. The theme in the kitchen is "good home-style cooking" using only the freshest ingredients. An extensive menu is offered featuring Prime rib, steaks, seafood, pasta, salads and much more. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are served daily along with the popular Farly Bird" menu. Banquet arrangements are available. Customers say that the new "Pier" is the best kept secret in town! The Pier is open 7 days a week. New business hours: Sun-Thurs. 9am-10pm. Fri-Sat. 9am-11pm. Weekend Brunch 9am-3pm.

Café Enrico
Open Since 1978, 875D at Island Drive, Alameda
(510) 522-0128
Why drive across town when you can dine in the neighborhood? For Iralian dining at its best, visit Café Enrico overlooking the beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon with fresh flowers and candles. From our gourmet seafood plates to Old World pastas, chicken and lamb dishes, Angus hamburger and even a dieter's menu. Café Enrico truly offers something to please everyone. In fact, starting this fall from 7-8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, diners will enjoy a buy one get the 2nd one of equal or lesser value FREE. House specialty: Manila clams and fresh seafood cloppino are not to be missed. Café Enrico is open daity. Sunday Brunch is served from 11am-3pm. Monday Night Specialt\* Family Take-Out Package includes: Soup, Caear Salad, Aught Specialt\* Family Take-Out Package includes: Soup, Caear Salad, 848.00°, or \$58.00° set. For reservations, please call (510) 522-0129. MC, Visa, AME, handicap access. Casual attire. \$\$

AME, handicap access. Casual attire. \$\$

Sushi House
2375 Shoreline Drive, Alameda (510) 865-0999

When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come experience why locals and out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will delight your senses with unique, award-winning sushi creations not found elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All seafood is delivered daily to ensure unirvaled quality & freshness. Showcasing these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as "Crazy Horse" — tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado; "Crazy Monkey" — yellow tail, salmon, et, tobiko and cucumber; and "Dynamite" — yellow tail, salmon, nuna and halibut deep fried with house special sauce — spicy! Frequent Sushi House tiners John and Salle Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist, and his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." Sushi House is open nonstop from 11 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Plenty of free parking. From an intimate date to a big celebration, Sushi House is the hip and trendy place to be in Alameda! Jazz at the Beach 1:30p to 4:00pm Every Saturday with The San Francisco Mainstream Jazz Group. AE MC VS \$\$

The San Francisco Mainstream Jazz Group. AE MC VS \$\$

El Caballo Wraps

1108 Lincoln, Alameda (510) 521-6257

El Caballo Wraps Gournet Mexican Cuisine is an unexpected treasure in the heart of Alameda. Located on Lincoln Avenue next to Paganos Ace Hardware, El Caballo Wraps is the East Bay's answer to fresh, homemade, gournet Mexican fare with a sophisticated twist. The menu is impressive, including old recipe soups, fresh gournet salads, seafood, tacos, Mexican specialties and more. Among the gournet specialties at Wraps is the "Superb Seafood Wrap," a flavorful combination of grilled snapper, shrimp sautéed with salsa fresca and chipotle sauce, served with cilantro rice, beans, sweet yellow corn and guacamole. Barbecue wraps and breakfast wraps are also served all day. For those who want something other than a wrap, try one of Wraps' many Mexican classic platters or a la carte items. Vegetarian plates are also available. Open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., 1108 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, (510) 521-6257. Catering, to-go and delivery also available.





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522-0129 For Reservations



**Embry** 

FROM PAGE 3

ple? Do you enjoy Regional Parks, a

FROM PAGE 1

been raising money for this race for years \_— she had almost \$338,000 banked by June 30 — and is launching a campaign Web site that trumpets dozens of prominent Democrats' endorse-

ments.

"The great thing about democracy is that everyone can decide if they want to run," Chan, 57, a Perata protege, said via e-mail Monday. "I am looking forward to a lively campaign."

Meanwhile, former Assemblyman Johan Klehs, D-San Leandro, who this summer also formed a committee to seek Perata's seat in 2008, said Monday he's shutting it down.

In 2003, Chan sued Perata in Alameda County Superior Court—with his blessing, to preempt similar action by their political enemies — to test whether he could run in 2004.

State senators are limited to two four-year terms, but filling less than half a term doesn't count toward the limit. Perata won a Nov. 3, 1998, special election to fill the 9th District seat that Barbara Lee vacated in April 1998 to go to Congress. He argued his term didn't begin until he was sworn in Dec. 7, 1998 — four days less than half a term — meaning he could run again in 2004. Attorney General Bill Lockyer agreed, but Chan got a legislative counsel's opinion saying that the clock started with Perata's election, not his swearing-in. A judge ruled that Perata could run, so Chan dumped her 2004 Senate campaign's money into a new committee for 2008 and bided her time.

Chan has just been termed out of the Assembly, replaced by Sandre Swanson, D-Oakland.

Hancock, 66, was unavailable for comment Monday, but spokesman Hans Hemann said she enjoys an amicable relationship with Chan.

"Unfortunately, we're in a world of term limits," he said. "Loni really does want to push for campaign finance reform and feels she needs more time to do that, because six years in the Assembly hasn't resulted in significant reform."

Other priorities include edu-cation and the environment, he

Proposal

FROM PAGE 1

Klehs, 54, ran unsuccessfully for the 10th state Senate District this year, thus also surrendering an Assembly seat from which he wouldn't have been termed out until 2010. He rolled some leftover 2006 10th Senate District money into a 2008 9th Senate District committee, he said, but "I have no interest in running for that Senate seat, and I'll close the committee before the end of the year."

Hancock has been in politics far longer — she was elected to Berkeley City Council in 1971 — and has the advantage of currently holding elected office, giving her a bully pulpit from which to grow her campaign.

But Chan, an Alameda County supervisor from 1994 until 2000 and an assemblywoman from then until this month, has Perata's blessing as his heir apparent, and so is plugged into his formidable political and donor network.

The 9th state Senate District includes all of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Livermore, Oakland and Piedmont, as well as half of unincorporated Castro Valley in Alameda County. It also contains all of San Pablo and almost 70 percent of Richmond in Contra Costa County. Yet it's possible neither will get a serious crack at Perata's

and almost 70 percent of Richmond in Contra Costa County.
Yet it's possible neither will get a serious crack at Perata's seat in 2008.

Many Democrats dissatisfied with term limits have talked of linking these limits' relaxation with a deal for legislative redistricting reform — the latter a high priority for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's second term.

Perata this month told reporters that if term limits are relaxed, he'll run again in 2008.

"Oh yeah. I would, yeah, of course ... The civics teacher in me would like to see this place what it once was. I'm not saying we should be here forever, but the truncated terms are ravaging this building."

The 9th state Senate District includes all of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Livermore, Oakland and Piedmont, as well as half of unincorporated Castro Valley in Alameda County. It also contains all of San Pablo and almost 70 percent of Richmond in Contra Costa County.

each Josh Richme akland Tribune a

jrichman@angnewspapers.com or 510-208-6428.

the city," he said in a phone in-terview. "I think they should stay focused on some of the primary needs of the city."

needs of the city."

An organization is currently doing an inventory of the city's output of carbon dioxide, which will be the basis for a reduction of the gas, and earlier this month the City Council gave final approval to a trio of ordinances that comprise a green building program.

"This is just another part of the complete puzzle," Mayor Robert Lieber said.

clean energy," she said.

James Carter, who will be the task force chairman, said alternative energy is going to be "a huge growth industry."

"We want to help find a home for those kind of businesses," he said. "So they can help solve the problem ... The issue of global warming is not like YZK. It's real."

The task force is only one step, however.

The second is an energy-efficiency presentation to the city staff and council by Kathy Diehl, an environmental engineer at the EPA and an Albany resident.

The presentation would include areas where the city can conserve energy, and how it can help businesses and residences.

But resident Sol Strand, who asked several questions about the plan at Monday's meeting, said Reach Justin Hill at 510-243-3578 or jhill@cctimes.com. Christmas Eve at

### Wright

FROM PAGE 1

FROM PAGE 1

This issue "may be the most important structural decision (facing the board) for the next few years," he writes.

Wright said in a phone interview that he is trying to help facilitate a forum so people can debate an issue if they aren't able to go to district board meetings.

The district provides police services, maintains the community center and park, and manages the community's contract for solid waste and recycling services.

The roles of police chief and general manager have always been handled by one person.

In September, the district board of directors voted to keep that structure and to use an executive search firm to look for and help screen a set of qualified candidates.

At the time, Wright objected

Instruments

by Santa Claus.
And she is particularly happy
that the funding is coming from
a local source. "It seems like the
whole community is coming together to help the kids out," she
said.

The club also helped the program fund students' trip to a music competition.

FROM PAGE 1

Scott

FROM PAGE 1

to the moves. He told The Journal that he thought it was inappropriate and premature to move forward before the election.

The board is seeking a new police chief and general manager because the man who handled the roles, Barry Garfield, abruptly walked out of a district board meeting in May and remains on leave. His contract expires June 30.

If the board decides to change course on the police chief/general manager roles, it would not alter the timeline that puts a new, permanent police chief at the helm no later than July 1, said Brown Taylor, the district's interim police chief/general manager.

Taylor has recommended the position remain a joint role, saying there was no justification for an additional executive in the district.

As of Wednesday, 24 people

trict.
As of Wednesday, 24 people had voted on the Web site: 17 voted that the police chief should not be the general manager, three

The instruments were here in time for Portola's annual winter

concert on Thursday, a show that the Rotary chapter planned to at-

tend.
And the music program, in turn, will pay tribute to its benefactor by performing at the Rotary chapter's annual pancake breakfast benefit March 18. Por-

The program started in 2001. "It was a novel approach," Councilwoman Janet Abelson said. "That was a very forward-thinking change that he implemented."

mented."

The paramedic service ther spread to the El Cerrito fire stations

voted that he should, and four voted "maybe." People who live within 50 miles of Kensington can vote and post a comment. Wright said the vote total is not a large enough sample size. He said it would be good if there were somewhere between 50 and 100 votes.

Pat MCI ausphin, president of

would be good if there were somewhere between 50 and 100 votes. Pat McLaughlin, president of the board, said she doesn't object to posting the question on the site but said the issue "has been decided."

Unless someone comes up with a financially feasible, workable plan, there is nothing else to consider, she said.
But Wright pointed to the fact that nobody has been hired yet. The forum, he said, will give the board another thing to think about in deciding which direction to take, and this is the time for debate.

"We have a great opportunity right now," Wright said.

Reach Justin Hill at 510-243-3578 or ihill@cctimes.com.

oreakrast benefit March 18. Por-tola music program supporters will be helping the Rotary sell tickets to the event.

The program can still use as-

sistance obtaining instruments either through monetary donations or through donations of actual instruments. Anyone who can help should call Aguiar at 510-620-0891. Learn more about the Rotary Club of El Cerrito at www.elcerritorotary.org. Learn more about A&G Music at www.agmusic.com.

Reach Chris Treadway at 510-262-2784 or ctreadway@cctimes.com.

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Because of space constraints, the calendar does not appear in to-day's edition. It can be read online at ContraCostaTimes.com by clicking "other editions."

### Library

FROM PAGE 5

FROM PAGE 5
hrough Feb. 20. All ages are welcome but it's best for preschool and
up. J. Roger's Pirates School interactive program will be held at 6:30
.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 23. Children's
illustrator Elaine Chu will present her
new book, "The Year of the Pig," at
7 p.m. Jan. 30. Children's author Alison Jackson presents a story time
and discusses being an author at 7
p.m. Feb. 13. Musical storyteller
Deborah Bonet presents an introduction to musical instruments for duction to musical instruments f the youngest audience at 7 p.m. Feb. 27. retirement.

He is the immediate past president of the Rotary Club of El Cerrito and a member of the board of directors at Salesian High School. He also has worked on the city's July 4 celebration.

lapel pin, and a After the trainir help staff an Ea Park booth at e

your anir

the Cove" on Sal a.m. to 4 p.m. Er crafts, treats or a call for a schedu events. Don't miguided shoreline a.m. or 2 p.m. Ca

and a rocky sho On Friday, Dec. are free but re quired; call 51

...

Sharol Nelson-Er

# The parameters spread to the El Cerrito fire stations. "It's a great program," Scott said. "It's a great step forward for the fire service. I feel real proud of that accomplishment." Scott said he was also proud he served in one of the best fire organizations in the area, and had a part in hiring some of the people in the department. Retirement was not the easiest decision, Scott said. While he says he won't miss the 3 am. callouts, he will miss all the people. "It was a positive thing that I stayed, and it's a positive thing that I'm going," he said. Scott said he plans to remain

FROM PAGE 1
replace a man who spent the
bulk of his career as a firefighter
in the El Cerrito Fire Department, which also provides the
Kensington Fire Protection District with fire protection services.
In 1968, Scott became a volunteer firefighter in Pinole. He
was also a firefighter in the Air
Force and Air Force Reserve, and
a police officer/firefighter in Sunnyvale.

a police officer/firefighter in Sunnyvale.

In November 1974, Scott became a firefighter in El Cerrito and worked his way up the ranks. In 1999, he was appointed fire chief.

Scott, 57, said if he hadn't become chief, he would have retired years ago: His plan had been to retire by 54.

"I've been having too much

"I've been having too much fun," he said. Hanin said many of the fire department's successes can be attributed to Scott.

Hanin said many of the fire department's successes can be attributed to Scott.

"He really just seemed to love being a part of the fire department," he said.

In 2000, as Contra Costa Emergency Medical Services, the fire department and an ambulance company were trying to deal with delayed ambulance responses to Kensington, Scott came up with the idea of having Emergency Medical Services fund a paramedic program while the fire department provided paramedics in Kensington.

DE

PICALIAN' THATAS

Reach Justin Hill at 510-243-3578 or ihill@cctimes.com.

CERRITO **Speakeasy Theater** 

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The Bishop's Wife

For Your Consideration FBI 9:45pm, SAT (3:30pm) 9:45pm

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### Antiques D' Jour & Floral Shoppe



asked several questions about the plan at Monday's meeting, said he doesn't know what Wile is try-ing to accomplish for the city.

'It doesn't seem to pay any at-tion to the economic goals of

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WEEKLY SALES CAN BE FOUND IN THE AUTO SECTION ON PAGE D2.

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# haring holiday memories

ealty presidents' ations on bygone

ns on holiday memo-his columnist and the of our local associa-lators. As a bonus, I holiday trivia of

me holiday trivia of by the holiday trivia of by my favorite Christmas occurred when I was a only thing I wanted sy-Wetsy' doll. Baby ill memember her. She in from her bottle and da diaper change. I he who would listen, rists and uncles that I is doll. Wasn't I surceive that gift in tripli—Wetsy' triplets, wowl lift of teeny tiny diabiliday season.

\$25. Names are put into a hat and the name drawn gets to pick their favorite charity to give the money to. It's a nice adult way to spend the holiday.

"Nabisco made animal crackers with strings attached, so they could be hung on the tree as ornaments."

Coluid be filting on the tree as charaments."

Oakland Association of Realtors 2007 president Betty Moore: "My memory is of a visit to my grandparents home on Christmas Day. They lived 30 miles away and we had to drive on dirt road through tall trees that were covered with icicles. When my dad stopped to remove a tree limb blocking the road, instead of helping, we were trying to grab icicles. "Stringing popcorn garlands to hang on the tree is an old tradition. Unambitious Victorian Era women purchased red and green popcorn garlands from less affluent women who needed extra money."

Women's Council of Realtors 2007 president Kim McGuire-Reid: "I remember how we attempted to keep our children from finding out their parents were Santa Claus. We would keep all their gifts in our closet and lock our door to our room. On Christmas Eve we would bring all the gifts out after the children were asleep. One Christmas, our children awoke and caught my husband eating Santa's cookles. He was in trouble. We thought we were caught bringing out the gifts, but they were only concerned about Santa's cookles.

"Holiday cards were saved each year. They were used to make tree ornaments or the pictures were cut out and pressed into cookle dough and then baked."



BOBBIE REID

My favorite holiday memory was how as a child my parents would make me, my brother and sister go to bed early on Christmas Eve. Then my mother would wake us up at 12:01 a.m. to special gifts under the tree.

Joseph Larkin President Associated Real Properties Brokers

Berkeley Association of Realtors 2007 president Ariene Baxter: 'On a Christmas spent in the Midlands of England we enjoyed a scene right out of Dickens. "All of us wore paper crowns from our Christmas crackers and for dinner we had roast goose, followed by a blazing plum pudding with a hidden tuppence." The next day, Boxing Day, we took a glorious walk through the countryside and watched a fox hunt. The horses were magnificent, the foxhounds totally obedient. When the leader of the hunt asked our party if we'd seen the fox we told him yes and pointed

See MEMORIES, Page B2



MAKING THINGS BRIGHTER: GRUBB Co. Realtors take a moment from preparing box for our troops in Irag: standing from left to right, Anne Van Dyke, Bettina Balestrieri, Stev

# Grubb Co. adopts soldiers in Iraq

Realtors at The GRUBB Co. in Oakland and Berkeley, recently shipped 12 boxes of holiday gifts and goodles to the 85 soldiers of Company A , 425th Airborne Engineers from Fort Richardson, Alaska, who are currently serving in central Iraq.

"The holidays must be an especially hard time for the young men and women serving in Iraq and we wanted to make this year a little bit brighter for them," said GRUBB Co. Realtor Anne Feste who helped to spearhead the campaign.

First Lieutenant Frank Palestini, MP, executive officer and son of GRUBB Co. Realtor Bettina Balestrieri sent a wish list from the soldiers.

"It was interesting to see what they asked for." said GRUBB Co. co-owner John Karnay. "Beef Jerky and sunflower seeds seemed to top almost all of the lists.

The holidays must be an especially hard time for the young men and women serving in Iraq and we wanted to make this year a little bit brighter for them.

Anne Feste Realtor, The GRUBB Co.

Other items sent included books, DVDs, games, cards and hard candy. Our agents and staff contributed close to \$4,000; this includes a generous donation from LaSalle Cigars in Montciair Village."

# a whole ne

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A GREAT FIREPLACE not only adds value and warmth to your home, it's a natural focal point fo

# Is it time for a fireplace facelift?

APA
A great fireplace not only adds value and warmth to your home, it's a natural focal point for winter entertaining. But if you're having a hard time envisioning your guests sipping cocktails around your straight-out-of-the-'70s hearth, it may be time for a fireplace facelift.
Half of all American homes have at least one fireplace or freestanding stove, according to the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association. Fifty-nine percent of those homeowners consider the fireplace to be a major design feature of their home, and 73 percent of woodburning fireplace owners say they use them to enhance the home's atmosphere.

An out dated fireplace how.

ever, can detract from the overa appeal of your home. One of the easiest and most cost-effective ways to dress up

Half of all American homes have at least one fireplace or freestanding stove. Most consider the fireplace to be a major design feature of their home, say they use them to enhance the home's atmosphere.

an aging fireplace is to give it the look of stone. Stone has been a favorite material for fire-places since people first started building hearths. Durable and beautiful, stone's natural variety and richness of color marries well with virtually any design or décor.

décor.
The cost and weight of real stone, however, may have some homeowners thinking they can't have the naturally beautiful fireplace they fantasize about.
Cultured Stone manufactured stone veneer solves that problem by providing the appear-

ance, color and feel of real stone without the weight, cost and need to completely redesign your fireplace. Cultured Stone veneers from Owens Corning, made from custom mixtures of natural ingredients including Portland cement and lightweight natural aggregates, exactly minic the look of the natural stones from which they were molded, right down to the smallest detail.

See FACELIFT, Page B5

### Memories

FROM PAGE B1

FROM PAGE B1
in the opposite direction that he'd actually gone.
"Theme trees used to be popular. The theme could be angels or small dolls or even family portraits to produce a true 'family tree.' Long before aluminum or plastic holiday trees, innovation ruled.
"A dead tree was stripped of its needles and cotton was glued to the branches for a flocking affect. Or instead of cotton, a very painstaking process was used to apply small feathers to create a look of tree needles."

Associated Real Property Brokers 2006-2007 president Joseph: Larkin: "My favorite holiday memory was how as a child my parents would make me, my brother and sister go to bed early on Christmas

the walls.
"It must have taken the teachers hours to cut all those strips. They needed lots of patience to survive a room full of 5-year-olds and all that paste.

Bay East Association of Realtors president Chuck Edell: "My favorite holiday memory was when my sons were 3 and 6 yrs old. I was working for Payless Drugs and was in my office and decided to call them using my Santa Claus voice.

When I got home that evening all I heard from them was how Santa had called to chat with them. They

ad called to chat with them. They were so excited."
"Not all cultures used toys for tocking stuffers. With lots of toys noter the tree and sweets of every ind offered, some stockings were eaded with what we would call to-ay 'healthy treats. Tangerines and rainuts were frequently used to fill he colorful socks."

If we all could have one holiday ish, I believe it would be that eace would reign supreme in this orld. Take a moment and extend on unexpected kindness to somene. It's a gift that keeps on giving. Have a safe and happy holiday nd a very Merry Christmas.

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Anne Feste 510.339.0400/371



# Following market trends

your investments.

Beyond the general market direction, as an investor you also want to know which areas of the market might provide favorable investment opportunities. Investors should always consider investing in sectors of the market that may be in a position to do well going forward. Based on the expectation for a slower growth economic environment in the first half of 2007, our market professionals currently recommend investing in the more defensive health care and consumer staples sectors.

As for your current holdings, if you happen to own companies that are weak in their respective industry, this could become a bigger risk when the economy slows. You may be better off buying and owning strong companies that have pricing power and dominant positions in their industry.

But how can you identify these companies?

Interestingly, some of them may be right in front of you. Think about the products you see on the table at holiday gatherings or at bowl game parties — brands that are widely known and accepted. These companies are usually quite profitable because they have good control of pricing, it is always possible their business may slow down a little with the economy, but they likely are in a position where they will not fall off entirely.

The hard part to making good picks is that great companies do not always translate into great stock investments. When the market recognizes a good company, its stock price tends to move to a valuation that does not offer an attractive risk/reward tradeoff. However, in the current environment, you can look for — and take advantage of — opportunities to buy great companies at reasonable prices.

For more information about the outlook for the coming year,

LEILA GOUGH

One way to gauge market and its trajectory is to be aware of the trends that are currently in place for the marke and the economy. worth noting that e though we are focusing on the market, we also ha to consider the state the economy as we

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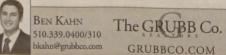
963 Hillcroft Circle riginally offered at \$1,100,000 ented the Seller



1088 Clarendon Grescen Originally offered at \$925,000







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# by the holidays, but don't forget those in need

The more we imagined how the logistics of food distribution might be handled, the more we really wanted to know. A week later we were standing in an enormous warehouse in Oakland, home of the Alameda County Community Food Bank.

Suzan Bateson, the director of the Food Bank, guided us, scribing as we walked what we were seeing. What she told us is that it is all big: The operation, the quantity of food handled, the number of people in need.

This county food bank provides of mod saisstance to more than 40,000 people each week. They do do assistance to more than 40,000 people each week. They do from the bank to supplement donations they have received directly. These groups include food parties, sheafter, because the food bank to supplement donations they have received directly. These groups include food parties, sheafter, churches — lots of people who either give emergency food boxes for people to take home, or prepare and serve meals to the hungry.

It is to this warehouse that the collection barrels are taken, it is also be handled, the number of food donated by warlous food companies go, and where boxes of fresh fruits and they are observed up, filled about equally with a mix of canned and dry packaged in a feod barrel and of to go to the ware obseauted by pour to each the Boy Scouts are because and canned and groups like the Boy Scouts are obseauted by an interest and the Boy Scouts are obseauted by an interest and the Boy Scouts are obseauted by a fruit to some object the Boy Scouts are objected in barrels and by decked what we were sure such that it is all big: The operation, the quality with a few scale and and Dorothy Day House and the Seckely Food and Housing Project in Berkeley Cood the Bank is getting food out under the collection barrels and by availus from collection barrels and by availus from the Bank is getting food out under the food dan Housing Project in Berkeley Cood to Bank is getting food out unde



TARPOFF AND TALBERT

See TARPOFF, Page B4

# n live/work loft owner deduct special assessment?

### How should college buddies invest in real

Dear Bob: A couple of college buddles and I are just beginning our lives as professional businesspersons and we want to partner up in some real estate investing a full-time job. We just want to take on a project or two when opportunity exists. What is the best way to go about this? We all trust each other 100 percent. Should we form a corporation, a general partnership or LLC (limited liability company)? — Rav D.

Dear Rav: Congratulations on

tion was simple. But it is quite complex.

Because your personal resources, goals and situations might vary, especially after a partner marries and the spouse acquires possible marital interest in the investment property, a partnership agreement or LLC is often the best way to hold title.

A partnership agreement can provide for many possibilities, especially a buy-out agreement if one partner wants to sell but the others don't.

Before you acquire a property, I

starting your real estate investing early. I started way too late at age 27. There is no better long-term investment than sound, well-located real estate, as you will soon discover.

You probably thought your question was simple. But it is quite complex.

Because your personal resources, goals and situations might vary, especially after a partner marries and the spouse acquires posting and some proper sources.

# When home title is in a living trust, must mortgage also be in a living trust?

Ilving trust?

Dear Bob: When title to a home is held in a living trust, is it important for the mortgage to also be in the name of the living trust?

— James C.

Dear James: No. Only a very few enlightened mortgage lenders allow the living trust trustee (the property owner) to sign the mortgage papers as trustee of the living trust.

trust.
Instead, most mortgage lenders insist the borrower momentarily take the title out of his or her living trust and put it back into the borrower's name, so the mortgage or deed of trust can be signed by the home owner and then recorded. This results in unnecessary recording fees,

# No extra tax when selling home to adult child

Dear Bob: My husband and I lived in our home for three years before moving to our current resistence. We presently rent out our old house, but we plan to sell it in a year or two to our adult daughter. She is willing to pay us market value. As we wish to claim that \$500,000 principal residence sale tax exemption of Internal Revenue Code 121, is it legal to sell to our child and does the IRS impose any extra tax? — Lall R.

Dear Lall: There are no special tax complications for selling a property to a relative. No law requires you to pay any extra tax for doing so. However, I am very concerned about your time schedule.

To qualify for the principal resi-

about your time schedule.

To qualify for the principal residence sale tax exemption — up to \$500,000 for a qualified married couple filling a joint tax return (up to \$250,000 for a single home seller), — Internal Revenue Code 121 requires you or your spouse to have owned the home at least 24 of the 60 months before its sale and



both of you to have occupied it as your principal residence for the same time period. If you mess up, you lose this generous tax break.

# Plan ahead for multiple

See BRUSS, Page B14

# By Appointment

igned and custom built with Bay wel entry, vaulted ceilings, gourmet four bedrooms, three and one half edia room, and more! Best of the and/Berkeley hills and only minutes the Claremont Resort and BART!

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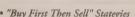
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Offered at \$1,190,000

### Tarpoff

FROM PAGE B3

# A beautiful year-round solution for seasonal energy conservation

Montclair New Construction 18 Azalea Lane, Oakland

with during the holidays. Most recipients have jobs but are not earning enough to buy sufficient food. Some have lost their jobs and are in need of help. Either of these situations could be our own at some time in our lives.

"I think of donating as an investment in the future and in the education of young children who can learn better if they have adequate nutrition," she says.
Checks can be sent to Alameda County Community Food Bank, P.O. Box 2599, Oakland 94614 or directly to a favorite organization. Online donation site is www.acrb.org. Food barrels are in many locations until the end of the year, including Safeway and Albertsor's stores. Berkeley Bowl, and the main library in Alameda. To volunteer time, of the past, homeowners have tractive techniques to keep the winter cold outside and the wanted warmth inside. These are quick fixes that need to be updated again and again.

According to the National Association of Home Builders, windows are one of the largest of entry yellowood shutters and aluminum mini-blinds found that wood shutters and aluminum mini-blinds. Polywood shutters and aluminum mini-blinds found that countered the winter cold outside and the wanted warmth inside. These are quick fixes that need to be updated again and again.

According to the National Association of Home Builders, windows are one of the largest of the energy used to heat on energy billis does not always and accol homes. Subnuters offers homeowners have trooperly insulate your winter warm after list repeated year after year. An important way to start was the subnuters of the energy sucd to heat ocol homes.

Sunburst Shutters offers homeowners have made to like your fourse.

In the past, homeowners have the relied on inconvenient and temporary winterizing methods such as unsightly weather stripping, bulky was remered year fitter in the dure of the energy efficient than any other windows are proled to the energy efficient than any other windows the polymory of the energy efficient than any other windows the polymory of the ener

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Tahoe setting with panoramic canyon view. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Large level yard. High ceilings. Lots of light. Beautiful finishes.

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resin that blocks air flow through your windows.
Researchers are not the only ones aware of the energy-saving characteristics of Polywood. Homeowners across the country have had these durable shutters installed to create energy-efficient homes in both hot and cold climates.

Massachusetts resident David Mintz says he saw a 20 percent savings in his energy bill after installing Polywood interior shutters

PLEASE RECYCLE

### Sold · Sold · Sold

Fabulous Gold Coast Colonial. Three bedrooms, two and one half baths. Beautiful architectural details. Large family room opens with French doors to the sunny level garden.

Originally offered at \$1,380,000 Represented the buyers



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# By Appointment

Step through the lovely wrought-iron entry gates into the charming and private gardens of this imposing 1920's English Tudor residence. Sited well above the street level, with sunlit rooms and bay views, this home will charm you with its exceptional quality and architectural detailing. Five bedrooms, two and one half baths, playroom, full basement and attic. Its location on a tucked-away cul-de-sac affords privacy while still being close to shops, restaurants, a great Farmers Market and San Francisco Express transportation.

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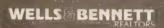
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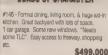


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We Hope Your Holidays are Magical!



I thank you my wonderful clients and friends and wish you a wonderful Holiday Season and a superb New Year filled with happiness, prosperity and good health.

f I'd also wish to introduce you to my exceptional grandchildren who also join me in wishing you lots of fun and joy in the New Year.

Henry Bersin, Oliver Bersin, Vivienne Bersin of New York, Julia Bersin and Braudy Bersin of Montclair.



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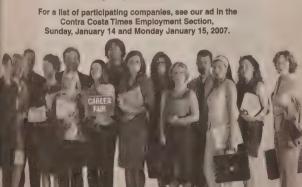
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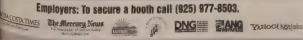
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### Bruss

FROM PAGE B3

Is sale.

I presume you meet the occu-cancy test for house number one, so you can sell it in 2006 and claim up to \$500,000 principal residence isle tax-free profits.

number of times you can use this generous tax exemption.

# Why life estate prevents home equity loan

tup to \$500,000 principal residence sale tax-free profits.

As for house number two, into which you moved in 2005, after 24 months of ownership and occupancy within the 60 months before its sale, it can also qualify for the tax exemption up to \$500,000 described above. If you sell it in 2008, you can again qualify for the IRC 121 tax exemption if it has been at least 24 months after the sale of house number one.

The tax reason is IRC 121 can only be used once every 24 months. But there is no limit to the

Dear Carolyn: It makes a great deal of sense for every home equity lender in the nation to reject your home equity lender in the nation to reject your home equity loan request. The reason is, if the lender has to foreclose for non-payment, it can't terminate your mother's life estate (unless she renounces it or dies) to obtain marketable title.

Now you know a major reason I highly discourage life estates. I don't know who advised deeding the property to you and your slaters with your mother keeping a life estate, but that was a major mistake.

Now she can't get a home equity loan or even a senior citizen reverse mortgage if she is 62 or older. Your mother can renounce her life estate to the remainderpersons (you and your sisters) by signing a quitclaim deed. Then the co-owners can obtain a home equity credit line to pay for a new roof and other repairs.

For more details, please consult

# Can seller discriminate by requiring purchase of adjoining land?

Dear Bob: A four-acre land parcel is listed for sale on the MLS (multiple listing service) for \$120,000. The listing says the parcel must be sold with the adjoining 15-acre parcel for \$600,000. That parcel has a separate MLS listing with the same term. The parcels are owned by unrelated people. I want to buy the \$120,000 parcel but have no desire to buy the \$500,000 property. Can! pay full price with no contingencies? Is the requirement that both parcels be purchased together legally enforceable? It strikes me as discriminatory — Tom M.

Dear Tom: This situation doesn't sound like illegal discrimination based on your race, national origin, age, sex, religion, etc. instead, there might be a legitimate reason the adjoining owners want to sell their properties to the same buyer.

A polite phone call to the listing

agent should clarify the reason. Per-haps there is an encroachment. Maybe there is an easement prob-lem. There could be many other possible reasons.

possible reasons.
If you want to buy the \$120,000
parcel, but not the other, make your
written purchase offer (preferably
through your own buyer's agent so
to be fairly represented). The seller of
the four acres can reject your purchase offer without giving a reason.
Or he can counteroffer.

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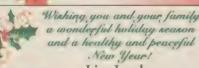




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Happy Holidays from Your Hills Real Estate Team

The Alameda Journal, The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The El Cerrito Journal

# Around the horn

Three in a row?

### Lady Titans rolling

### More postseason honors for O'Dowd grad

### Futbol score

### On deck

Inole Valley Holiday Classic, boys ec. 28 at Haas Pavilion-UC Berkeley-es kick off with an Acalanes-El Cerrito :30 p.m., followed by a St. Mary's-Oak :13 p.m. The other games are San Lear Vista, 4:30 p.m.; Tennyson vs. Sale-and McClymonds vs. Pinole Valley,

### Stars of the week

# Berkeley caught in a trap



BRIAN GUINN JR., center, who made the all-tourney team at last week's Mel Goode Tournament, scol points and had six assists on Monday as Berkeley lost to Skyline 82-77.

# Berkeley soars at Nike Tournament



### Kagawa will step down as Albany coach

By Robert Jordan

The Albany High School boys basketball team is off to its best start since 1992, and that is still not enough to bring back its coach next season.

start since 1992, and that is still not enough to bring back its coach next season.

But Doug Kagawa, 56, has earned this impending retirement. After 30 years at the helm of the Cougars program, Kagawa will hang up the whistle at the end of this season to focus more on his duties as head counselor at Albany.

"I am just so busy being head counselor, so it is like having two full-time jobs," said Kagawa, who began his coaching career with the Berkeley High junior varsity team at the age of 22. "I am usually getting there at 8 a.m. and leaving at 10 p.m. Basketball has become a year-round activity. I think my wife needs a husband in the winter."

Albany has won nine straight games at press time since dropping its opener to Hayward and has a shot at finishing nonleague play 11-1, the same record Kagawa and the Cougars had in the 1992-93 season when they advanced to the California Inter-scholastic Federation Northern regional playoffs.

"It's magic," Kagawa said. "No, we have five starters back and this is the same group that went 24-1 as sophomores at the JV level."

See KAGAWA, Page 2

points and six rebounds from Tori Nicks in the victory Saturday, Laura Cannon added 13 points and eight rebounds for Albany.

St. Mary's 55, Castlemont 53: Sonia Aguilar scored a game-high 21 points, including three 3-pointers, to help the host Panthers (6-1) edge the Knights on Saturday, Carmen Aguilar added 12 points for St. Mary's.

St. Mary's 63, Marin Catholic 56: Carmen Aguilar had a game-high 21 points, including three 3-pointers, and Sonia Aguilar added 16 points for the host Panthers in this victory on Dec. 13.

13.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Albany 47, Mt. Diabio 38: The visiting Cougars improved to 9-1 with the overtime victory on Tuesday. Albany outscored the Red Devils 11-2 in the overtime period. Kevin Karera paced Albany with 12 points, and teammate Ilari Rydberg added 10 points.

Albany 62, Novato 49: The host Cougars took a 37-22 halftime lead and didn't look back on Friday. Alex Assia led a balanced Albany scoring effort with 12 points.

Skyline win By Pete Elman BERKELEY — The Skyline
High School boys basketball
team, for the second game in a
row, overcame two large secondhalf deficits to defeat Berkeley
82-77 in a thriller at Berkeley
Monday night.

tactics helps

Monday night.

In a reprise of Friday's 59-56 victory over St. Joseph Notre Dame, the scrappy Titans (8-5) outhustled (21 steals) and outrebounded (55-42) Berkeley.

Led by 6-foot-3 junior point guard Kwame Vaughn's 28 points, Skyline came from ten points down in the final period to win. It outscored Berkeley 21-6 in the final five minutes.

Berkeley's 6-foot-8 Matt Simpkins (26 points, 10 rebounds, four blocked shots) was unstoppable down low but missed several long shots, Yellow Jackets guards Duane Bagsby (14 points) and Brian Guim Jr. (13 points, six assists) were able to get open and also to the foul line as Berkeley converted 18 of 21 attempts from the free throw line.

The visitors stayed close throughout the first two-and-ahalf periods. But after the Yellow Jackets (5-3) increased their lead to 54-44 early in the third period, Titans coach Terrence Ransom decided to scrap his man defense in favor of a half-court trap.

"We needed to change their tempo and get them out of their comfort zone," Ransom said.

With Simpkins resting on the bench, Skyline's trap forced five turnovers in a two-minute period en route to a 15-2 run. A 3-pointer by senior forward Donald Gaines gave the Titans their first lead of the game at the end of the quarter, 59-58.

Berkeley with Simpkins hack-

of the quarter, 59-58.

Berkeley, with Simpkins back in, went on a 12-2 run to start the final period, taking a 71-61 lead with 5:52 left. Skyline had yet to score a field goal in the period and as if it had run out of gas.

Jackets rout Chandler, edge Miramonte to advance to the semifinals

The Berkeley High School girls basketball team moved into the Nike Tournament of Champions Blue Division semifinals with a 52-51 victory over Miramonte on Tuesday.

Results of Wednesday's semifinal game against Ventura were unavailable at press time.

In Tuesday's game, Alexandria Mitchell scored a game-high 19 points and teammate Dominique Williams—McNac added 11 points as the Yellow Jackets (3-1 at press time) came back from a 28-22 halftime deficit. Berkeley outscored Miramonte 16-8 in the third quarter and 30-23 in the second half for the victory.

Berkeley 72, Chandler-Artz. 48: In a first-round Nike Tournament of Champions game on Monday, Jennifer Gross scored a team-high 18 points and Mitchell added 11 points. The Yellow Jackets took a 25-10 lead in the first quarter and a 40-26 halftime lead. They never trailed in the second half.

Albany 68, Oakland 48: The host Cougars (5-3) received a game-high 27

ROUNDUP

44: The host Cougars had five players score seven points or more, led by Andre Gumina and Zach Babitt with nine points each, in this victory over Dec.

Ams scored a game-high 23 points, and teammate Brandon Senigar added 12 points in the victory on Friday.

Berkeley 72, Sheldon-Sacramento 67: The Yellow Jackets had four players in double figures, led by Brian Guinn Jr.'s 23 points, as Berkeley held a 53-47 lead after three quarters and held on for the win in the first round of the Mel Goode Tournament on Dec. 15.

El Cerrito 79, Piner 59: Jonatho lliams scored a game-high 29 point

# Milo, CCC defensive coordinator, is retiring

By Ben Enos

Contra Costa College defensive co-ordinator Frank Milo, a fixture on the East Bay football scene since 1968, has decided to step down immediately from his post due to health reasons.

Milo, 65, has coached defense at Contra Costa since 2003, coming out of retirement after resigning as head coach at El Cerrito High School in 2001. Milo coached the Gauchos for 20 years. He began coaching at Richmond High in 1968.

at Gavilan-Gilroy earlier this season as the main reason for stepping down.

"We evaluated what I had and after discussing it with my wife," Milo said, "we felt I should be more concerned with my health, which in the past hasn't been my No. I priority."

Milo returned to the sidelines after a 12-day absence after the Gavilan game and coached the rest of the season.

Son.

He said he notified Contra Costa
head coach John McDermott and athletic director John Wade III at this time
so they will have plenty of time to fill
the position.

"I think I know what I'm doing a lit-

Milo led the Oilers until 1980 and became coach at El Cerrito in 1982. The Gauchos reached North Coast Section championship games in 1983, 1984, and 1998 under Milo.

He said he doesn't know if he will ever return to the coaching ranks, but at this point, it isn't likely to happen.

"I still feel I can coach but at this point my health is my concern," he said. "I probably won't miss it until the actual games start. That's when I'll really start feeling it."



PACIFIC OCEAN
Craig Stone of Emeryville
Sportfishing said the dungeness
crab and rockfish combo trips
continue to yield limits of both
species. On Monday out of
Emeryville, the C-Gull 11 had limits of rockfish and dungeness
crabs for their 16 anglers aboard
at the Farallon Islands. The large
swells of last weekend are gone
now, and good ocean conditions
have returned.
THE BAYS

4. Martinez Pier —
One of the many places
for sturgeon

SAN FRANCISCO: Sturge

THE BAYS
SAN FRANCISCO: Sturgeon
fishing has been excellent in the
South Bay near Hunters Point.
Nine have been weighed in at
Oyster Point since last
Wednesday. Frozen herring has
been the best bait.
SAN PABLO: Sturgeon fishing
has been good. Fish are being
found down five to 10 feet inside
the Pumphouse to Hamilton
Field. Ghost and grass shrimp are
best. Bass are scarce.
Stone said the first sturgeon
trip of the winter was taken out of
Emeryville on Sunday. The Captain Hook reported in with two
keeper sturgeon to 60 pounds,
one 8-pound striped bass, and
one leopard shark to 10 pounds
for their 16 anglers aboard. All of
the fish were caught using live
grass shrimp.
SUISUN: It's been a bit slow.

the fish were caught using live grass shrimp.

SUISUN: It's been a bit slow, given the weather of late. Rumor has it Buoy 4 has sturgeon. There is talk of striper, too — but little proof.

Jim Smith of the charter boat Happy Hooker had a productive three days sturgeon fishing in the Big Cut. Last Thursday they caught 10 limits of legal sturgeon and six oversized ones, including a 250-pounder by Bob Rankin of Martinez. Smith, J.P. Gano of Vallejo and John Avices of Tracy also caught oversized ones ranging from 84-96 inches.

On Friday they caught three 70-inch sturgeon and bus over

ng nom 84-96 inches.
On Friday they caught three
70-inch sturgeon and two oversized ones (80 inches each). On
Saturday they moved to San
Pablo Bay and caught three sturgeon in the 50-pound range and
three leopard sharks.
THE RIVERS THE RIVERS

THE RIVERS
SACRAMENTO RIVER,
ANDERSON: Kirk Portocarrero of
Outdoor Adventures Sport
Fishing said fishing for king
salmon is fair to good with
anglers catching bright chrome
salmon. All king salmon are being
caught using Flatfish lures, T55s.
Monday and Tuesday of this week
produced five salmon each day.

ACRAMENTO RIVER, RED-G: Portocarrero said fishing DING: Portocarrero said fishing for rainbow trout is fair to good. Pheasant Tail No. 16 and Fox's Poophas No. 16 are standard flies THE DELTA

THE DELTA
Striped bass fishing remains viable despite the cold weather and lower water temperatures.
Sturgeon fishing is fair. Go above the Rio Vista Bridge or Cache Slough.
THE LAKES

LAKE CHABOT, CASTRO VALLEY: The staff at Lake Chabot

said trout fishing has been great with limits consistently being caught. Shore anglers have noticed a pick up in action, especially on the east shore trail. Try using yellow Power Eggs near Raccoon Point. Trolling has been good as well, although not as Haccoon Point. Trolling has been good as well, although not as good as bait fishing. Try trolling a little bit deeper by adding some split shot or pegging a silding sinker. Rapalas are your best bet, but flashers, needlefish and Kastmasters are bringing in fish as well.

8. Lafayette Reservoir —
Brave the cold, catch a fish

as well.

While there are fewer limits of catfish coming out of the lake lately, there are still plenty out there. Try fishing open bail and let them take it. In the winter catfish don't take the bait aggressively and might hit or shake the bait without swellowing. Give them a minute to grab hold before you set the hook.

No reports of bluevill but they.

set the hook.

No reports of bluegill but they are out there. Try using a size 14 hook and a tiny piece of night-crawler or red worms. Use a bobber about 18 inches away from the hook is the setup you want to use. Bluegill stay by tulles in shallow areas, Raccoon Point and across from Catfish Landing are great places to pull out these sunfish.

sunfish.

Ken Kruse of San Lorenzo
caught his limit on the east shore
line using white Power Eggs,
landing three totaling 17 pounds.
Dan Butter of San Ramon caught
four trout totaling 17.5 pounds.

four trout totaling 17.5 pounds.

LAKE DEL VALLE, LIVERMORE: Trout fishing is very good
in the Narrows, in front of the
Marina and out near the dam.
PowerBait and nightcrawlers woi
best. Striped bass catches have
slowed. A 25-pound sturgeon
was caught Thursday in front of
the Marina on shad. It was the
first such catch in nearly two
years.

JUNES SUCH CARCH IN nearly two years.

LOS VAQUEROS, BRENT-WOOD: The staff at Los Vaqueros said the trout bite has came back with a vengeance this weekend with ilmits caught on Saturday and Sunday. Very few boaters were out, so most fish were brought in from multiple locations on shore. PowerBait and night-crawlers were working great. Those anglers who chose to venture out did very well. Bass, salmon and catfish have been slow this week. We are in the no-phase moon for the month of December, so predictions are that the fishing should remain good for the next couple weeks.

LAFAYETTE RESERVOIR,

for the next couple weeks.

LAFAYETTE RESERVOIR,
LAFAYETTE: Karen Baer reported
that due to cold weather and rain,
anglers have been scarce. The
few that have endured the elements have been picking up
about a fish per rod. Weekly trout
plants are continuing, with Mt.
Lassen scheduled to put in 1,000
pounds this week. The park is
open on Christmas and New
Year's Day. pen on Games. /ear's Day. — Compiled by Curtis Pashelka and Tim Goode,



PLEASE RECYCLE

### Roundup

FROM PAGE 1

and teammate Daymon Warren added 16 points as the host Gau-chos defeated the Prospectors on

Friday.

El Cerrito 59, Oakland 58:
Williams had a team-high 18
points and seven rebounds, and
Greg Brizendine added 14 points
for the host Gauchos in this victory on Dec. 13.

Greg Brizendine added 14 points for the host Gauchos in this victory on Dec. 13.

St. Mary's 64, Woodside 41: Chris Brew scored a game-high 19 points and Will Brew added 16 points to lead the host Panthers (5-1 at press time) to victory over Woodside on Dec. 14.

DOY'S SOCCER

Antioch 3, Berkeley 1: Francisco Camacho tied the score with a goal in the first half for the Yellow Jackets (3-6-1) on Tuesday, but two second-half goals lifted the Panthers to victory. Daniel Quezada had 12 saves for Berkeley in this second-ound game of the Winter Soccer Classic Gold Division.

Richmond 2, Berkeley 1: The visiting Oilers (4-1-1, 4-0 Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League) took their final lead in the 55th minute when sophomore Adrian Perez received a cross from Diego Orellana and slammed it home. Berkeley (3-5-1, 3-1) had to play catch-up for much of the game, but it was apparent early that the Yellow Jackets could match Richmond's speed.

In the end, it was two key mis-

parent early tract the Yellow Jackets could match Richmond's 
speed.

In the end, it was two key mistakes and a good performance at 
midfield by the Oilers that Yellow Jackets coach Janu Juarez 
pointed to as the reasons his 
team lost Friday's match.

"What killed us is the midfield," Juarez said. "They ate us 
up in the midfield, and that's my 
fault because I should have done 
something else."

Francisco Maciel scored the 
first goal for Richmond in the 
25th minute. Berkeley responded 
quickly when Brendan Lee's free 
kick in the 30th minute grazed 
Richmond goalkeeper Nelson 
Gonzales' fingers and went in for 
the Yellow Jackets' lone goal.

Albany 4, St. Elizabeth 1:

Richmond goalkeeper Neison Gonzales' fingers and went in for the Yellow Jackets' lone goal.

Albany 4, St. Elizabeth 1: Richie Bertone scored two goals in the first 46 minutes to give the visiting Cougars a 2-0 lead on Friday. Giovanni Gonzalez added two assists for Albany (3-2-1 Bay Shore Athletic League).

Salesian 4, Albany 1: Ramin Sedighi scored an unassisted goal at the 58-minute mark, but it wasn't enough for the host Cougars on Dec. 13.

St. Mary's 2, St. Joseph Notre Dame 1: Miles Hadley scored the first goal and assisted on the eventual game-winning goal by Jordan Marvin in the host Panthers' victory on Friday. St. Mary's improved to 6-1-2 overall and 4-1-1 in BSAL play.

St. Mary's 9, Berean Christian 0: Marvin and Hadley both scored two goals in the first 21 minutes as the host Panthers took a 6-0 halftime lead in this league game on Dec. 13.

El Cerrito 3, Hercules 1: Billy Leal, Francisco Balderas and Kevin Madrano scored for host El Cerrito (2-0-1 ACCAL) on Dec. 13.

OIRLS SOCCER
Albany 6, Holy Names 1:

### FINAL EAST BAY PREP FOOTBALL SUPER POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	De La Salle	13-1	Spartans win 15th straight NCS 4A title but fall in CIF Div. I final
2.	Foothill	12-1	Beats James Logan and Pittsburg before falling to DLS in 4A final
3.	San Ramon Valley	10-2	Only losses come against No. 1 De La Salle and No. 2 Foothill
4.	Hayward	12-2	Farmers take 3A East Bay title by routing Alhambra 52-21
5.	Pittsburg	8-4	Pulls off biggest NCS first-round shocker, upsetting Deer Valley in OT
6.	Monte Vista	7-4	Injuries to QB Drew McAllister derail Mustangs' hopes for playoff run
7.	Deer Valley	10-1	Undefeated BVAL champs fall short in NCS first-round thriller with Pith
8.	Alhambra	11-2	Brandon Rutley runs for 622 yards and scores seven TDs in postseas:
9.	Amador Valley	7-3	Dons are only East Bay team to beat Hayward in 2006
10.	McClymonds	9-2-1	Faced little resistance en route to Silver Bowl and Transbay Bowl wins

11. Freedom (7-3), 12. College Park (9-2), 13. James Logan (8-3), 14. Miramonte (10-4), 15. Pinole Val 16. El Cerrito (10-2-1), 17. Mt. Eden (8-2), 18. San Leandro (7-3), 19. St. Patrick-St. Vincent (11-2), 20. Ind Others receiving votes: Salesian (10-3), Alameda (7-4). The East Bay Super Poll incorporates all Ea schools and is compiled by the staffs of Contra Costa Newspapers and the Alameda Newspaper Group

### EAST BAY HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL SUPER POLI

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	De La Salle	4-0	Spartans haven't lost in almost a year, win streak now at 31 games
2.	Foothill	7-1	Falcons beat McClymonds, Berkeley and Valley Christian in three-day span
3.	Fremont-Oakland	6-3	Tigers go 1-2 at the Gonzaga D.C. Classic in Baltimore
4.	McClymonds	8-1	Fred Otis and Co. hold Mitty's Drew Gordon to 13 points in 64-60 upset un
5.	Newark Memorial	5-2	Chris Jones and rest of young squad shock Foothill with one-point win
6.	Campolindo	6-1	De Anza transfer Dwight Tanaka gives Cougars even more speed in baden
7.	Monte Vista	6-1	Cory Higgins, Mustangs await showdown with San Leandro on Saturday
8.	St. Mary's	6-1	Panthers' lone loss was to Sac-Joaquin Section champion Jesuit-Camida
9.	Berkeley	7-2	Capital Christian-Sacramento transfer Matt Simpkins averaging 22.5 pgg
10.	San Leandro	2-2	Pirates lineup features three of top-ranked recruits in Northern California
		-	

11. Acalanes (5-1), 12. Las Lomas (6-0), 13. Bishop O'Dowd (3-1), 14. Salesian (4-2), 15. Tennyson (7:2)

Others receiving votes: Castro Valley (9-2), California (6-2), El Cerrito (6-1), San Ramon Valley (5-3), Ken Richmond (5-4), Amador Valley (5-2), Albany (8-1), De Anza (5-2), Piedmont (7-2), American (5-2), Castlemon Northgate (6-2), Moreau Catholic (7-2). The East Bay Super Poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and piled by the staffs of Contra Costa Newspapers and the Alameda Newspaper Group. Records are through \$2.

### EAST BAY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL SUPER POLI

Rank	School	Record Comment								
1.	Pinole Valley	7-0	Jaleesa Ross, DeNesha Stallworth and Marnique Arnold are putting in work							
2.	Berkeley	1-1	Loses by two to highly regarded Sacred Heart Cathedral, then beats Miraron							
3.	Northgate	7-0	Broncos ride Haley Dahlgard and Jessica Trautner to win Walnut Creek tourn							
4.	Hercules	7-1	Titans off to best start in school history; only loss came by one point in OT							
5.	Miramonte	2-3	Tough slate had Matadors hosting Mitty, then traveling to Berkeley							
6	Monte Vista	6-0	Mustangs take trip to Las Vegas with undefeated record on line							
7.	Carondelet	4-2	Life without Jayne Appel begins for coach Margaret Gartner and Cougas							
8.	St. Pats-St. Vin	5-0	Alex Cowling leads nice returning group from last season's playoff run							
9.	Deer Valley	2-1	Erica Helms and Ashley Ellis make Wolverines contenders in BVAL							
10.	Foothill	7-3	Won five of first six before losses to Ripon and Liberty at Stonebarger tourn							

11. Moreau Catholic (5-2), 12. Pittsburg (4-0), 13. St. Mary's (6-1), 14. Bishop O'Dowd (5-1), 15. Alhambra

Others receiving votes: Amador Valley (2-3), Piedmont (2-3), San Leandro (3-2), Castlemont (1-3), Wa 2), Fremont (7-3), Las Lomas (6-2), Arroyo (7-0), Alameda (5-2), Richmond (5-1).The East Bay Super Poll I all East Bay high schools and is compiled by the staffs of Contra Costa Newspapers and the Alameda Ne Group. Records are through Saturday.

### SCHEDULES NEEDED

wrestling).
Please fax or mail to:
West County Times — fax:
510-262-2776; mail: 4301 Lakeside Dr., Richmond, CA 94806
Alameda Journal — fax: 510748-1680; mail: 1516 Oak St.,
Alameda, CA 94501

Megan Moss scored a hat trick in this BSAL victory for the host Cougars (3-2-2, 3-1-2 BSAL) on

Albany 2, Salesian 2: Juliet Marinello scored two goals to help the visiting Cougars take a 2-1 lead, but Salesian scored a tying goal at the 72-minute mark on Dec. 13.

El Cerito 6, Hercules 0: Gaby Baker and Alicen Buder both had two goals to lead the visiting Gauchos (7-0, 3-0 ACCAL) in their victory on Dec. 14 over the Titans.

their victory on Dec. 14 over the Titans.

Berkeley 3, Richmond 0: Esther Leon scored a pair of unassisted goals in the host Yellow Jackets' defeat of the Oilers on Dec. 14. Berkeley improved to 5-1-1 overall and 2-0-1 in the ACCAL with the victory.

Berean Christian 4, St. Mary's 2: Sophia Darke and Millie Triano scored to give the visiting Panthers a 2-1 lead at the 58-minute mark, but the Eagles scored three goals in 15 minutes

### SPORTS E-MAIL REPORTS

to take command on Dec. 1 The Panthers fell to 3-4 and in the BSAL with the loss.

# Kagawa

FROM PAGE I

The Cougars returned guards Zach Babitt and Eric Roberson, as well as forwards Bryan Ma, Kevin Karera and Andre Gumina.

During its current winning streak, Albany has had a differ-ent leading scorer in five of those

"You won't know who is go-ing to score," said Kagawa about the Cougars lineup. "It's coming from everywhere. We are trying to play uptempo."

On the defensive end, the

Cougars are using their quickness and speed to pressure opponents for the full 32 minutes.

ponents for the full 32 minutes.

"During warm-ups we are pressuring," Kagawa jokingly said. "We have a ton of quickness and you can't coach that, so we want to take advantage of it."

Kagawa has been taking advantage of the fundamentals ever since he started coaching back in the early 1970s.

him coaching and menton kids," said Berkeley coach Bid Guinn, who played for Kapi in the late 1970s. "It is going be a sad day when he retiral cause guys like that don't on along that often."

Contact Robert Jordan at rjordan@cctimes.com

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0

minutes. Ar n vacation, an lanchett) is shot by n boys fooling n, Her husband keep her alive, their nanny (Adri-to take their young le border rather than adding. In a seem-bplot set in Tokyo, a cheaf mute

compelling Djimo of an enormous d

of steeper white a life ingeles' Ambassador Bobby Kennedy was a gives us an enor-wits and bores, ama-thazy glimpses of th, not the man. Esses is not in queseles as a director defor a Kennedy to tworth the time. — uage, drug content lolence.) 2 hours. D

Baron Cohen naive Kazakhstan er, to the United "documentary" on mbarks on a cross-reting out racists, ither moronic Amer salize they're on

icide, and some

r Candy (Abbie Cor-an (Heath Ledger) Proin and each other oln and each other lille remaining suspi-well-fed-looking. As iral is chronicled, Cornish's icy per-le usual cliches of pathtub overdose, apsing, etc.) keeps This ends up a willful brat and a bilke drugs a lot

8 minutes. C-LE": The fate of the stake in the latest ars Daniel Craig, a spy series, as James Mikkelsen as the officers from most lains: Ho's a number-viaunderer who has allion of an African s' cash on a stock-that comes to a bad an. (PG-13: intense our, sexual content, Sexual content, utes. B

about a pig es him from tor Gary ispiration from (Julia Roberts)

### OPENING THIS WEEK

### Wednesday

"LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA" (R)
The story of the American attack a
eventual victory at Iwo Jima, told
through the syes of the Japanese
Directed by Clint Eastwood, whos
earlier film, "Flags of Our Fathers,
again the American perspective,"

gave the American perspective.

"ROCKY BALBOA" (PG): In a virtual boxing match, former heavy-weight champion Rocky Balboa (Sylvester Stallone) beats the current champion, reigniting his desire

### Friday

"CURSE OF THE GOLDEN
FLOWER" (R): Director Zhang Yimou weaves a tangled web at the
royal palace, involving an empress
(Gong Li), the stepson (Lie Ye)
she's been having a secret affair
with and the woman he actually
loves.

The voice work is top notch, particularly Steve Buscemi's gloriously nasty Templeton (Roberts seems too disembodied at first, but grows on you). Bring tissues. — M. Pols. (G) 1 hour, 37 minutes. A-

37 minutes. A"DECK THE HALLS": Another holiday comedy falls flat. Steve Finch (Matthew Broderick) wants to have a special Christmas with his wife and kids, and he plans it down to the last stripe on the last candy cane. But his new neighbor, Buddy (Danny DeVito), is a more free-spirited type, who buys a truckload of lights to slap onto the front of his home. — J. Anderson. (PG: some crude and suggestive humor, language.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. D
"DEJA VII": While ATE goent Doug

mor, language, 1 hour, 35 minutes. D
"DEJA VU": While ATF agent Doug
Carlin (Denzel Washington) investigates a horrific ferry bombing, he is
distracted by the deceased Claire, a
beautiful young woman who saw the
bomber right before the blast. While
looking for clues, he hears his own
voice returning a call on her answering machine. With the use of some of
the FBI's secret technology (this is
one thriller where the less they try to
sexplain the science, the better), he's
able to zoom in on Claire's life. — B.
Newman. (PG-13: intense sequences
of violence and terror, distrubring images, some sensuality.) 2 hours, 8
"THE DEPARTED": Martin Scorsese

ages, some sensuality.) 2 hours, 8 minutes. 8

"THE DEPARTED": Martin Scorsese offers his tastiest picture in years. Adapted from the clever 2002 Hong Kong cop drama "Infernal Affairs," "The Departed" is a cat's cradle of possibilities brought to life by a terrific ensemble including Leonardo Di-Caprio, Jack Nicholson and Matt Damon. Groomed by a crude mob boss (Nicholson) since he was a boy, Colir Sullivan (Damon) joins a special Massachusetts police unit whose goal is to bring Costello down. The cops have their own mole (DiCaprio) inside the kingpin's outfit. The picture's not pretty but it is compelling and, in many places, very funny. — B. Caine. (R: strong brutal violence, pervasive language, some sexual content and drug material.) 2 hours, 29 minutes. A"DREAMGIRLS": With its big, bark-

29 minutes. A"DREAMGIRLS": With its big, barking showstoppers that played to balcony seats, the Broadway musical
"Dreamgirls" was the "American Idol"
of its day (the film even starts with a
talent show). A fictional girl group
called the Dreamettes (based on the
Supremes) this to make its mark. But
from the first note at that Detroit talent
show, the movie's songs have the
wheedling "vote for me" quality of an
"Idol" aria. With the exception of Jennifer Hudsons" "And I Am Telling You
I'm Not Going" and Beyonce
Knowles' "Listen," the songs feel thin.

— B. Newman. (PG-13: profanity,
some sexuality and drug content.) 2
hours, 5 minutes. C
"ERAGON": Not the worst dragon

— B. Newman. (PG-13: protanity, some sexuality and drug content.) 2 hours, 5 minutes. C

"ERAGON": Not the worst dragon movie ever. Chalk this one up as strictly for kids. Ed Speleers plays Eragon, a boy "abandoned" by his paraents and his older cousin. When a huge magical jellybean falls into Eragon's hands, a cuddly little dragon eventually hatches. It grows fast, and soon the two set off on a quest to help battle evil. — R. Moore. (PG: fantasy violence, intense battle sequences and some frightening images.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. C

"FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION": Filmmaker Christopher Guest has expertily skewered dog owners ("Best in Show"), folk singers ("A Mighty Wind"), and small-lown pageant people ("Waiting for Guffman"). In this film, he takes on Hollywood. But it's not the actual process of filmmaking that interests Guest and co-writer Eugene Levy, it's the buzz machine. Guest and Levy sketch out the sad but funny life of a fading actress (Catherine O'Hara) whose role in "Home for Purim" is said to be Oscarworthy. A PR guy (John Michael Hignis) sirs the publicity pot, and soon it's boiling over about what an incredible movie "Purim" is going to be. Guest's take on the media machine is dead on and razor sharp. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual references and brief language.) 1 hour, 26 minutes. B

"THE FOUNTAIN": In three different time periods, the Spanish Inquisition,

language.) 1 hour, 26 minutes. B
"THE FOUNTAIN": In three different
time periods, the Spanish Inquisition,
the present day and a sci-fi future,
Hugh Jackman loves Rachel Weisz.
But she's got a brain turmor, and as a
resuit, he's got to storm about looking for a cure. Director Darren Aronofsky delivers a beautiful, visually memorable movie, but if he's aiming for
deep and profound, why does this
feel so much like "Love Story" meets
"Raiders of the Lost Arc," without any

"THE GOOD GERMAN" (R)

bumbling security guard (Ben tiller) accidentally lets loose an an-ient curse that brings all the ani-nals and bugs on display at the fuseum of Natural History to life.

"SOAP" (NR): In this Danish romal tic drama, a beautician leaves her coyfriend and moves into a new apartment building, where she forges a surprising bond with her downstairs neighbor, a reclusive

"WONDROUS OBLIVION" (NR): In the early 1960s, when England was

"WORDS OF MY PERFECT TEACHER" (NR): A Buddhist teacher and three of his studer seek for wisdom in this docum tary. With appearances by very likely cast mates, Steven Seag

HAPPY FEET": Like the classic ani

mor.) I hour, 38 minutes. A"THE HISTORY BOYS": See how the
quips fly in this very British filmed
play about a bunch of boys who
hope to get into Oxford or Cambridge. They're being tutored by a
trio of teachers, a dry historian
(Frances De La Tour), a court jester
with the soul of a poet and the hands
of a clever young modernist
(Stephen Cambell Moore). The
movie's dramatic arc rests on the
question of who will win the battle for
their hearts, minds and tushes? But
the better question is, if the boys are
this clever (they never say umm or
ahl) do they really need all this help?
— M. Pols. (R: language and sexual
content); 1 hour, 44 minutes. C+
"THE HOLIDAY": Two lovelorn

"THE ILLUSIONIST": Edward Norton plays a master magician in turn-of-the-century Vienna, and he's so good

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and violence.) 1 hour, 49 minutes. B
"JESUS CAMP": Liberals (or folks
who believe in the separation of
church and state) will find this film
alarming. Members of the religious
right may find themselves saying
"Amen!" "Jesus Camp" follows three
Missouri youths to a Christian camp
in North Dakota that serves as ROTC
training for God's army. Employing a
cinema verite style, the filmmakers do
a remarkable job of presenting this
polarizing material without editorializing. — R. Euther, (PG-13: some discussions of mature subject matter.) 1
hour, 30 minutes. B
"JONESTOWN": A thoughtful docu-

remains an elusive figure. — M. Pols. (NR) 1 hour, 26 minutes. B
"THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND":
This queasily enjoyable fiction film, based on the novel by Gilles Foden, creates a portrait of famous and bru-tal Ugandan dictator lid. Amin from inside the palace walls. Furiously paced with excellent performances by Forest Whitaker (Amin) and James McAvoy as the foolish Scotsman who becomes the leader's personal physician, the film has texture, if not depth, and enough intelligence to almost persuade you that it actually has something of note to say. — M. Dargis. (R: some strong violence and gruesome images, sexual content and language.) 2 hours. A-

See MOVIES, Page C4

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### FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

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Albany Twin

1915 Solano Ave Albany 510-464-5980

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AMC Bay Street 16
5514 Shallmould St. Energylle 510-457-4252
- Apocatypio (R) 1030, 1240, 140, 345, 450, 7, 8, 1010, 111 0
- Babel (R) 1135, 240, 550, 9
- Blood Diamond (R) 1135, 325, 730, 1045
- Castin Reyele (R-13) 11 40, 3, 750, 11
- Delje lu (R-613) 1020, 120, 410, 725, 1025
- The Good Shapherd (R) 1040, 1130, 230, 310, 630, 710, 1020, 1115 6:30, 7:10, 10:20, 11:15 \*tappy Feet (PG) 10:50, 12:10, 1:30, 2:50, 4:05, 5:30, 6:50, 8:10, 9:30, 10:50 \*The Holiday (PG-13) 11:50, 3:15, 6:20, 9:40 \*The Nativity Story (PG) 11:10, 1:50, 4:40, 7:05, 9:50

9 50. • Night at the Museum (PG) 11, 12:20, 1:45, 3:30, 4:30, 6:40, 7:15, 9:20, 10 • Rocky Balboa (PG) 11:20, 2:10, 5, 7:40, 10:35

California Theatre 2113 Kittreoge Str., School, 98abel (R) 2, 5, 8

\*Babel (R) 2, 5, 8

\*The Last King of Scotland (R) 1:45, 4:20, 7, 9:30

\*Shut Up and Sing (R) 1, 3:10, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15

Chabot Cinema 2853 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley 510-582-2555 Winht at the Museum (PG) 11, 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:35

Chabot Space & Science Center & •The Living Sea (Not Rated) 7
•Mysteries of Egypt (Not Rated) 8 15

Elmwood 3

Renaissance Grand Lake 3200 Grand Avenue; uaktand: 510-952-35350

•Blood Diamond (R) 3:45, 6:45, 9:35

•Castino Royale (PG-13) 12:30, 3:45, 7, 9:45

•Happy Feat (PG) 11:25, 1:35

•Night at the Museum (PG) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10 •The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) 1:15, 4:30 7:30, 10:15

Oaks Theatre
1875 Solano Avenue, Berkeley. 510-526-1836
•Blood Diamond (R) 1.30, 4:45, 8
•The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) 1:15, 4, 6:45,

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

Piedmont Theatre
4186 Piedmont Ave. Oakland 510-464-5980
98abel (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:25
•Curse of the Golden Flower (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7
9:35
•The Queen (PG-13) 2, 4:15, 6:45, 9

Regal Jack London

The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) 11:30, 2:10, 5:10, 8, 10:45 •Rocky Balboa (PG) 11:40, 2:20, 5, 7:40, 10:20 •We Are Marshall (PG) 11, 1:50, 4:50, 7:45, 10:40

Shattuck Cinemas 2230 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley 510-464-5980 2406-450, 5, 6,45, 8, 9,40

9 50
"The Departed (R) 3, 6:10, 9:15
"The Good Shepherd (R) 1:30, 5:10, 8:45
"The History Boys (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45
"Little Children (R) 2:15, 5:15, 8:15
"Stranger Than Fiction (PG-13) 1.45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30

United Artists Berkeley 7 22/4 Shattuck Ave., benkeley. 510-486-1852

•Borat (R) 4:45, 6:50, 9:15

•Casino Royale (PG-13) 11:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45.

•Eragon (PG) 12, 12:45, 2:20, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15,

10'45

•The Hollday (PG-13) 12:15, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30.

•Night at the Museum (PG) 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8, 10.30

•Rocky Balboa (PG) 11:30, 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 •We Are Marshall (PG) 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:45 United Artists Emery Bay

\$30 Chislé Ave, Emerynile \$15/420.9/107 e90rat (1); 242.9, 255.9, 259.7, 209.5 50.8 foot \$1,00 \$1.00 \$

### Central Contra Costa

CineArts at Pleasant Hill

10:15
•The Good Shepherd (R) 11:10, 12, 2:50, 3:30, 6:15, 7, 9:40, 10:30.
•Little Children (R) 11:15, 2:45, 6:30, 9:30.
•Volver (R) 12:45, 3:50, 6:40, 9:20.

# Contra Costa Stadium Cinemas

\$\frac{1}{5}\$\$ Center Avenue, Martinez 925-228-9980 \*Apocahytio (R) 1:10, 4:05, 7, 9:45. \*Charlottes Web (G) 12:25, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:15. \*Eragon (PG) 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35. \*The Good Shepherd (R) 12:45, 4:15, 7:40. \*Hight at the Museum (PG) 12:10, 2:30, 4:35, 7:15, 9:40. 9:40. •The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 9:50.

5.10, 7.35, 9.50. •Rocky Balboa (PG) 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 9:40. •We Are Marshall (PG) 1, 4, 7, 9:35.

Renaissance Orinda Theatre &
4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-254-9060 4 Orinda 71-18 Sq. Orinda 925-254-9060

\*\*Blood Diamond (R) 6:15, 9.

\*\*Charlotte's Web (G) 11:45 2 15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30.

\*\*Happy Feet (PG) 11:40, 1:45, 4.

\*\*Night at the Museum (PG) 11:30, 2, 4:30, 7, 9:40.

Rheem All Stadium 4
350 Park St. Moraga 925-988-3411
•Eragon (PG) 12, 2:30, 5:10, 7:35, 9:50.
•The Holiday (PG-13) 12:05, 3, 7, 10.
•Night at the Museum (PG) 12:10, 2:20, 5, 7:40.

9:45. •The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) 11:55, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55.

### West Contra Costa

Century 16 Hilltop

Cond. Marse Way, Richmond 510-758-2345

2-80, 4:05, 5.45, 7.10,

3200 Klose Way, Richmond 510-758-2345

\*\*Apocalypto (R) 11:25, 1, 2:40, 4:05, 5:45, 7:8

\*\*850, 10:10

\*\*Blood Diarmond (R) 1:05, 4:10, 7:15, 10:20

\*\*Casino Royate (PG-13) 9:50

\*\*Charlotte's Web (G) 11:35, 2, 4:25, 7, 3:20

30 regon (PG) 12:40, 3:05, 5:25, 7:55,

40, 10:05. We Are Marshall (PG) 1:45, 4:40, 7:30,

Cerrito Speakeasy Theatre

•Borat (R) 6, 9 •For Your Consideration (PG-13) 9.45 •Running With Scissors (R) 7.

### Solano County

Century 14 Vallejo
Century 14 Vallejo
1076-648-3456
1070-240-10:10 (R) FL255, 4/05, 7:10, 10:10 •Blood Diamond (R) 6:50, 10 •Charlotte's Web (G) 11:30, 12:20, 2, 2:50, 4:30 5:20, 7:45, 10:05 •Eragon (PG) 12:15, 2:40, 3:55, 5:05, 6:25, 7:30, 9, 0-55

he Good Shepherd (R) 12:05, 3:30, 7:05,

10:30

\*\*Happy Feet (PG) 11, 145, 4:20

\*\*Happy Feet (PG) 11, 145, 4:20

\*\*The Holldey (PG-13) 12:30, 4:10, 7:20, 10:25.

\*\*The Holldey (PG) 12:45

\*\*Holl at the Moscom (PG) 11:45, 1:10, 2:20, 3:50,

5, 5:30, 7:40, 9:05, 10:15

\*\*The Pursult of Happyneas (PG-13) 11:25, 12:25,

21:5, 3:15, 4:55, 5:55, 7:35, 8:35, 10:20

\*\*Hocky Bables (PG) 11:40, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15,

9:50.

### San Francisco

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10 20 \*\*Charlotte's Web (G) 11:05, 11:45, 1:40, 2:25, 4:25, 5:05, 7:05, 7:45, 9:40, 10:25 
\*\*Charso d 1the Golden Flower (R) 11:15, 2:05, 5, 9:05, 11:05 

\*\*Dolley Wu (RG-13) 11:40, 2:40, 5:40, 8:35, 11:30

Preamgirls (PG-13) 3, 7

The Good Shepherd (R) 10:20, 11, 2, 2:45, 5:55.

Happy Feet (PG) 10:50, 1:55

Happy Feet: The IMAX Experience (PG) 10:15,

12:30.
"Hight at the Museum (PG) 12:45, 3:30, 6:30, 9:15
11:45
"Hight at the Museum: The IMMX Experience (PG) 5:53, 8:20. 11:15
"The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) 10:30, 1:30, 1:36, 7:30, 10:30, 1:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:35, 4:35, 5:30, 6:35, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30,

11 30 •Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas 3-0 (PG) 11:25, 1:25, 3:25, 5:25, 7:25, 9:25, 11:2 •We Are Marshall (PG) 10:40, 1:50, 4:50, 7:50,

AMC Van Ness 14

1.15 Chariothe's Web (G) 11:15, 1:50, 4:20, 7, 9:30 Eragon (PG) 11:30, 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15, The Good Shepherd (R) 11:20, 3.05, 6:50, 10:30 The Holiday (PG-13) 10:15, 13:55, 8:10, 11:10 Night at the Museum (PG) 11, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 0

10
"The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13) 10.45, 11.45, 130, 2:30, 4.15, 5:20, 7.25, 8.15, 10:10, 11:05
"Rocky Balbos (PG) 10, 12:30, 3, 5.30, 8:20, 11
"We Are Marshall (PG) 10:05, 1, 4:05, 7:35, 10:05
1, 4:05, 7:35, 10:35, 10:35

Bridge Theatre 3010 Geary Blvd, San Francisco 415-267-4893 •Curse of the Golden Flower (R) 1:30, 4:10, 7,

Castro Theatre

Century 9 San Francisco Centre Borat (R) 8:10, 10:45 Casino Royale (PG-13) 12:10, 3:20, 7:15,

Clay Theatre 2261 Fillmore Street, San Francisco 415-267-4893

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Kabuki Cinema

1881 Post Street, San Francisco 415-922-4282

\*Apacalytia (1): 405. 550, 945.

\*Blood Diamond (8): 4, 7, 1005.

\*Curso of the Golden Flower (8): 430, 710, 10.

\*Hight at the Masseum (PG): 44, 07, 220, 940.

\*The Parsuit of Happyness (PG-13): 435, 715, 945.

Lumiere Theatre 1572 California St., San Francisco 415-777-3456

•The Departed (R) 1:45, 5, 8:30. •The Fountain (PG-13) 2, 4:30, 7, 9:25 •Soap (Not Rated) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35 Opera Plaza Cinema sol Van Ness Ave., San Francisco 415-267-4893

•Bobby (R) 2, 5, 8. •For Your Consideration (PG-13) 2:15, 4:45, 7:10, 9:20. •Sweet Land (PG) 1:30, 4:05, 7, 9:30. •Wondrous Oblivion (PG) 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:10.

Red Vic Movie House

Roxie Film Center
3117 16th At Valencia, San Francisco 415-863-1087

oThe Departed (R) 8.50.

Shut Up and Sing (R) 7.

Words of My Perfect Teacher (Not Rated) 7, 9.

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### NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD

LAY OF THE LAND BY JOE DIPIETRO / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

# **Events**

### CLASSICAL MUSIC

### DANGE

■ Cafe De La Paz — "Annual New Year's Eve Flamenco Fiesta," Dec. 31. Enjoy a four-course dinner with a la carte Spanish and California wine and sangria. Early seatings will be followed by flamenco dance performances while countdown seatings include a dance performance as well as a "Spanish Countdown," featuring the grape eating ritual and a complimentary glass of champagne. Early seating options: Candle Room: A 5 p.m. dinner followed with a 7 p.m. performance by La Monica and the Caminos Flamencos Company, \$50-\$70. Fiesta Room: A 5:15 p.m. dinner followed with a 7:15 performance by Yaelisa and the Caminos Flamencos Company, \$65-\$95. Countdown seating options: Candle Room: A 9 p.m. dinner followed with a 10:30 p.m. performance by La Monica and the Caminos Flamencos Company, \$95-\$115. Fiesta Room: A 9:15 p.m. dinner followed with a 10:45 p.m. performance by La Monica and the Caminos Flamencos Company, \$95-\$115. Fiesta Room: A 9:15 p.m. dinner followed with a 10:45 p.m. performance by Yaelisa and the Caminos Flamencos Company, \$10-\$140. 1600 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley, 510-843-0662, www.cafedelapaz.net.

ARCHWAY SCHOOL

### Movies

FROM PAGE C3

"LE PETIT LIEUTENANT": Eagerbeaver cadet Antoine is thrilled to get 
his first assignment in a Paris precinct. 
He starts the same day once-crack 
cop Caroline returns from desk duty 
and a long stint of alcoholism recovery. It takes a while for the two to 
bond, but a warm mentor/student relationship blossoms. — B. Strauss. 
(NR: violence, nudity, language, drug 
use; in French, with subtitles.) 1 hour, 
50 minutes. C+

"LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE": An





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### EXHIBITS

### LEARNING

### CHILDREN TEENS

- Kurukula Fall enrollment now.
  Girls ages 9-13 learn empowerment, life skills and self-defense through interactive classes taught by martial arts instructor Dara Connolly. In Albary, Details: 510-847-2400, www.kurukula.com.

### MEETINGS

- BEI Cerrito Garden Club meeting,
  9:30 a.m. Jan. 11. Napa Valley Orchids
  owner Debra Atwood presents "Orchids
  and How They Grow." Refreshments
  served. El Cerrito Community Center,
  7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito. Guests
  welcome, \$5 at door. Details: 510-5266827, poppies@elcerritogardenclub.org,
  www.elcerritogardenclub.org.

### VOLUNTEERING

### ONGOING

LEARNING

### SUPPORT

- 5437, www.npnonline.org.

  Narconon Nonprofit public benefit organization specializing in helping people with drug or alcohol addictions offers free professional assessments, advice, referrals to over 11,000 treatment centers nationally. 800-556-8885, http://drugrehab.net.

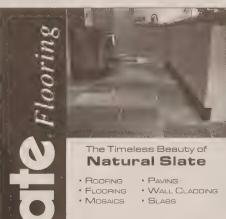
  Narconon Arrowhead Help in coping with addicts. Narconon Arrowhead offers free counseling, assessments, referrals to rehabilitation centers. 800-486-8933, www.stopaddiction.com.

  National Alliance on Mental Illness-
- National Alliance on Mental Iliness-East Bay Chapter sponsors a free monthly family support group at Albany United Methodist Church, 980 Stannage Ave., Albany. 510-524-1250, www.nami.org

- Mid-Life Women's Group Meets 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays. For support, friendship and sharing issues; with an experienced facilitator. 510-237-2210.
   Charcot Marie Tooth Quarterly support group meetings are held at Abany Library, 1247 Marin Ave. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Details: Gail, 408-425-5629.

### MISCELLANEOUS

- Kensington Senior Activity Center
   Meets 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursdays. We
  Contra Costa Adult School presents
  classes and events for those 55 and
  older. Arlington Community Church, 5:
  Arlington Ave., Kensington. 510-5269146, 510-547-1969.



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# PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

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# cG's 'Marshall' mushes it up

E DIRECTOR McG he binker fork mission is the man responsible for both "Charlie's Angles" movies, which indicates he is well-beery fun, as well as which skimpy bikiused to patch gaping lots. He provess less for his new movie, arshall," a film about yuncheery aftermath lane crash that killed tollege football team. In the work of the first his wo

alled.

y focuses on the betam's recovery use of the next year, yit faces a big obtash is the main modered here evocations of the state of the state of the flamminutes after the lominutes into the left, as the school n were, with a gap-

loss and grief proper uires a subtle, delicate utar's something McG we. He tries to convince alying around the old a drama enough, but it a You just know that in

destroyed much of the control of the

nating porcelain, abrics with keys ying meaning.
31. Asian Art Francisco, 415v.asianart.org.
6 of Gee's Bend' netric quilts that zim art, made by African-Amerian Alabama

dors



ANTHONY MACKIE and Arlen Escarpeta, both center, attend the funeral of a fellow football player.

ANTHONY MACKIE and Arlen Esteral life, for a town this wounded, recovery can't fit easily into the constraints of a two-hour film.

University officials initially thought it only right to scrap the football program for the next season. "Wouldn't be a game any more, Don," Board of Governor's member Paul Griffen ("Deadwood's" Ian McShane) tells Marshall's president, Don Dedmon (David Strathairin). "Be a weekly reminder of what we've lost." Griffen, a composite character, knows what he's talking about.

acter, knows what he's talking about.

His son, the handsome star of the team, was on the plane, and leaves behind not just his heartbroken father, but a fiancee, a cheerleader named Annie (the glassy-eyed Kate Mara).

But the remaining team members, represented here mostly by Nate Ruffin (Anthony Mackie), a player whose injured shoulder had kept him home on that fateful day, fight for their right to play. They enlist other Marshall students in a large-scale protest, which McG shoots like as a

carpeta, both center, attend the fun-cliche from the world of televi-sion commercials, using a crane, zooming high and then pulling back to show off its size. So a new coach, Jack Yenygel (Matthew McConaughey) is hired. Then the lone remaining assistant coach, Red Dawson (Matthew Fox) — who'd given up his seat on the plane and as a re-sult is plagued by guilt — must be coaxed out of retirement. And the game goes on.

sult is plagued by guilt — must be coaxed out of retirement. And the game goes on.

The movie is too facile to do without a traditional hero, and it flirts with Mackie's one-note angst-ridden Nate, before pinning its hopes on Jack. He's an outsider, a good old boy who knows better than to get all touchy-feely with the people who were truly touched by the crash. (Although in a real "aw shucks" moment, he points to his four children, frolicking in the sun like happy puppies, and tells Don that the crash made him think of what it would be like to lose them.) McConaughey's not bad in the part, and he's got a knack for making cheesy characters digestible, but the part is

limited and Jack falls far short of the level of great movie coaches (like Gene Hackman in "Hoosiers").

The team struggles, flounders and loses. The message inherent in all this is, of course, that winning isn't everything and that sometimes, just taking to the field is what matters. But McG puffs everything up, every slow motion tackle, every swelling chord of the overbearing orchestral score, until we start to expect victory.

## 'WE ARE MARSHALL' C-

Starring: Matthew McConaughey Matthew Fox, Anthony Mackie, David Strathairn, Ian McShane, Kate Mara, Brian Geraghty

Opens today: Bay Area theaters

He can't change history — in real life, the Marshall team didn't enjoy a winning season until the 1980s — so he uses recovery as his form of victory.

By the time Annie rides off into the sunset, a brave little smile on her face, "We Are Marshall" seems like nothing more substantial than a gaudy advertisement for grief management.

### Fiction

- Fiction

  1. "Next," by Michael Crichton. (Harper-Collins, \$27.95.)

  2. "The Shape Shifter," by Tony Hillerman. (Harper-Collins, \$26.95.)

  3. "Nature Girl," by Carl Hiaasen. (Knopf, \$25.95.)

  4. "For One More Day," by Mitch Albom. (Hyperion, \$21.95.)

  5. "Against the Day," by Thomas Pynchon. (Penguin Press, \$35.)

  6. "Ines of My Soul," by Isabel Allende (Harper-Collins, \$25.95.)

  7. "What Is the What," by Dave Eggers. (McSweeney's, \$26.)

  8. "Hannibal Rising," by Thomas Harris. (Delacorte, \$27.95.)

  9. ""Thirteen Moons," by Charles Frazier. (Random House, \$26.95.)

  10. "The Road," by Cormac McCarthy. (Knopf, \$24.)

- 1. "The Audacity of Hope," by Barack Obama. (Crown, \$25.)
  2. "Palestine," by Jimmy Carter. (Simon & Schuster, \$27.)
  3. "The God Deluston," by Richard Dawkins. (Houghton Mifflin, \$27.)
  4. "I Like You," by Amy Sedaris. (Warner, \$27.99.)
  5. "I Feel Bad About My Neck," by Nora Ephron. (Knopf, \$19.95.)
  6. "The Omplyrace's Diletma" by
- Nora Epnron. (Knopf, \$19.95.)

  6. "The Omnivore's Dilemma," by Michael Pollan. (Penguin Press, \$26.95.)

- man. (Doubleday, \$28.95.)

  10. "Joy of Cooking (75th Anniversary Edition)," by Irma S. Rombauer. (Scribner, \$30.)

### Trade paperback fiction

- "The Memory Keeper's Daughter," by Kim Edwards. (Penguin, \$14.) 2. "Saving Fish From Drowning," by Amy Tan. (Ballantine, \$14.95.) 3. "Snow," by Orhan Pamuk. (Vintage, \$14.95.) 4. "The Inheritance of Loss," by Kiran Desai. (Grove, \$14.)

### Trade paperback nonfiction

- 1. "The Iraq Study Group Report," by the Iraq Study Group. (Vintage, \$10.95.)
  2. "Bad President," by R.D. Rosen, Harry Prichett, Rob Battles and James Friedman. (Workman, \$8.95.)
  3. "The Glass Castle," by Jannette Walls. (Scribner, \$14.)
  4. "Dreams From My Father," by Barack Obama. (Three Rivers, \$14.95.)
  5. "Istanbul." by Orban Pamuk (Vin.

- 5. "Istanbul," by Orhan Pamuk. (Vintage, \$14.95.)

### Mass market paperback

- Mass market paperback

  1. "S Is For Silence," by Sue Grafton.
  (Berkley, \$7.99.)

  2. "Good Omens," by Neil Gaiman and
  Terry Pratchett. (HarperTorch, \$7.99.)

  3. "The Last Templar," by Raymond
  Khoury. (Signet, \$9.99.)

  4. "Anansi Boys," by Neil Gaiman.
  (HarperTorch, \$7.99.)

  5. "The Cell," by Stephen King.
  (Pocket, \$9.99.)

   Northern California Independent
  Booksellers Association

### **Obituaries** and In Memoriam

Bertha Chapman
Resident of Oakland
Longtime resident of Oakland,
died December 19, 2006 age 89.
Loving mother of Betty Bachman of Sacramento and Clint
Chapman of Oakland, grandmother of eight, Steve, Jim, Linda, Steve, Karla, Karen, Cheryl,
and Richard. Also survived by
12 great-grandchildren, and 1
great-great-grandchild. Former
owner, with her son and late
husband, of the Woodminster
Market in Oakland for 30 years.
Memorial Service will be held at
2 p.m. on Friday, December 29
at Sunset View Mortuary, top of
Fairmount Ave. in El Cerrito.
Sunset View Mortuary
(510) 525-5111





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BILL MANN

### Radio stalwart KFRC signs off

ANOTHER LEGEND DIS-

APPEARS: When conglomerate CBS/Viacom/Infinity decided to "blow up" oldies station KFRC-FM a few weeks ago — renaming it "Movin' 99.7" — another set of famous Bay Area call letters (like KSAN's) vanished.

The station's former rock-oldies format was a vestigial reminder of KFRC's former, powerful self. It was once one of the most powerful and influential Top 40 stations.

Many listeners who have lived here long enough probably associate KFRC most closely with its late zany morning man, Dr. Don Rose, a high-energy Danville resident who dominated local morning radio in the 1970s and 1980s. KFRC-AM and its powerful signal at 610 were sold by Infinity two years ago to a Christian-broadcast outfit, stranding Oakland A's broadcasts in radio's diaspora. KFRC, in its heyday, was run by a young programming whiz, Les Garland. Garland and a friend, Bob Lipman, then went on to create MTV and VH-1. When I started covering local radio, KFRC was programmed by a charismatic guy named Gerry Cagle, who'd run for the U.S. Congress in Mississippi. His general manager, the late Pat Norman, was a towering figure in Top 40 radio, a hitmusic format that first exposed us to Elvis, The Beatles, James Brown and so many others.

I still remember KFRC's old studios on Bush Street in San Francisco, near pricey eatery Le Central. Unlike many music stations, KFRC, then owned by RKO (yep, the same company that produced "King Kong"), had a great news department. Today, radio news has all but disappeared. Stations play more music.

Two of the young reporters then working at KFRC still have familiar names — local TV anchors Ken Bastida (KPIX) and Vikki Liviakis (KRON). Midmorning D.J. Dave "The Duke" Sholin published one of the radio business' top tip sheets — Sholin (still heard occasionally on KGO) had what radio folks call "good ears" — he could pick hits out of a stack of new singles.

Sholin brought national attention to interview John Lennon, at the Beatle's Dakota apartment. It wasn't until Sholin was driving home from SFO that he heard th

# A remarkable comebac



CALIFORNIA CONDORS, the largest land bird in North America, can sport a 10-foot wingspan.

# Oakland Museum exhibit charts revival of California cond

HERE MAY NOT BE many positive environmental stories in the news these days, but there's a hopeful story in one corner of the Oakland Museum. It's an exhibit titled "Bringing the Condors Home," charting the revival of the California condor — the largest land bird in North America — from the brink of extinction.

The modest display in the museum's Natural Sciences department was organized by the Salinas-based Ventana Wilderness Society, which has led a 20-year effort to restore the endangered species.

One of the simplest but most powerful panels on display traces the California condor population. It went from about 250 in 1900 to a single free-flying bird in 1987. That one was captured to join others in a project to breed more condors and train them to survive on their own.

Now, according to the Ventana society, the condor population has reached 289, with 138 condors in the wild.

There are photographs on



She referred to Pinnacles



DAVE MONLEY'S "Curious,"

State Park, on the Monterey County coast.

There's plenty to learn in this exhibit — that condors, for instance, don't kill live animals but scavenge for food, that they mate for life, and that parents invest more than a year in each chick. There's also a vertical silhouette of a typical condor's 10-foot wingspan, stretching from the floor of the gallery nearly to the ceiling.

Awesome, to be sure, but there's also disturbing news in the exhibit. One panel points out that lead bullet fragments are a source of poisoning that can result in death for condors that have scavenged the remains of game that has been shot. Last month, a lawsuit filed in the U.S. Central District Court argued that California's Fish and Game Commission should ban lead ammunition without delay.

"Bringing the Condor Home" is not a dryly educational series of displays. There's an interactive computer game and photos of "Condor Boot Camp," which toughens them up for release. They go through such training as "power pole aversion ther-

wingspan rowed from Academy

### FAIRY WINTERLAND

# Festive fun for all ages and cultures

Why it's cool: Children's Fairyland turns into a wintry wonderland for a weeklong celebration of all things frosty and jolly. Santa Claus and his elves will be on hand, but the beloved Oakland amusement park will be a blur of multicultural festivities as well. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Diwali, Ramadan, Kwanzaa or the winter solstice, you'll love the annual Children's Theater Holiday Program, organizers say. In addition to all the usual rides and attractions, Fairyland is also bringing in magicians, puppeteers, and arts and crafts wizards, so bundle up and head on over.

what kids like: The mix of gentle rides and attractions that makes this place so popular with the preschool and kindergarten set gets a splash of high octane pizazz in the coming days. Puppeteers, fire dancers, magicians, storytellers and other entertainers dance their way through the place every afternoon.

Plus, there are nightly parades. And did we mention elves and treats?

What parents like: Whole-

### THE BASICS

WHERE: Children's Fairyland on the shores of Lake Merritt, 699 Bellevue Ave., Oakland.

HOURS: Noon to 7 p.m. through Saturday.

TICKETS: \$6 per person, including all rides and entertainment. Infants younger than 1 year are free.

CONTACT: 510-452-2259 or www.Fairyland.org.

some family fun with a multitude of theatrical, holidaythemed events? Sounds like a
winner to us.

We're particularly intrigued
by the Fire Arts Collective
dancers, who'll perform at
5:30 p.m. Wednesday. Fire
dancers, spinning poi (balls of
fire, whipped around on a
chain) and dazzling acrobatics
— that's enticing enough to
lure even reluctant older siblings into accompanying the
family.

And "Nuterroles" for the side of the sid

family.

And "Nutcracker" fans will enjoy the Puppet Company's version of the famous ballet, complete with Mouse King bat tles, Chinese dragons and a



CHILDREN'S FAIRYLAND in Oakland hosts a weeklong multicultural celebration of the hold season. Among the activities will be a daily offering of "Hansel & Gretel," a puppet show that please the young ones. Not to worry; there are things for older siblings, too.

Snow Queen who sprinkles snow on all the children. That's 5:30 p.m. Dec. 23.

5:30 p.m. Dec. 23.

Nitty gritty: The multicultural Children's Holiday Theater show runs 12:30 and 3:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Catch everything else every day through Dec. 23.

Here's the lineup:

"Hansel & Gretel" puppet show at 2, 4 and 6:30 p.m.

daily.

Crafts 2 to 5 p.m. daily.

Magicians, storytellers, clowns or other live entertainment each afternoon.

Photos and chats with Santa at 5 p.m. daily, followed by a parade at 6:30 p.m.

Parking tips: There's parking available on Bellevue Street.

3 on weekends. Or take BART to the 19th Street sta-

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# Pontiac G6 GTP Sedan offers a lot of value



### KEANE ON WHEELS

### PONTIAC G6 GTP

front and rear, and the LATCH system for child seats.

There was \$3,870 in options that included a sound package featuring an AM/FM stereo player with autotone control. Also included as standard equipment was

Also, the \$850 option of OnStar not only offers the advantage of dispatching help in the event of a crash, but also provides turn-by-turn navigational directions. It also had adjustable foot pedals.

The Pontiac G6 GTP is an all-around great lineup, but the difficulty will be deciding which model to choose.

Classic Classics			,	٠			Page D2
Auto Doctor							Page D2
Down the Boad							Page D2





**CONTRA COSTA TIMES** 













































# 1964 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III sailed to America in 1978

Rolls-Royce, long known for producing exquisite automobiles, also has built cars to the specifications and taste of the person purchasing the automobile, regardless of the bizarre nature of the order.

tral hue.

Soon after taking possession of his Rolls, Christlieb quickly had the car, with less than 12,000 miles, resprayed in a more acceptable shade of blue. Thereafter, years were spent driving on holidays to Switzerland, France, Spain and Scotland.



THE 1964 ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER CLOUD III has trans Christlieb's daughters Deborah and Victoria on their we days and is about to do the same with his third daughte

# Use motor oil rating in your owner's manual

BY JUNIOR DAMATO

BY JUNIOR DAMATO MOTOR MATTERS

Dear Doctor: I own a 2007 Honda Civic. The manual says to use 5-20 HD motor oil. I went to the auto parts store and found 5w20 oil; however, it did not have the HD letters. Will this oil meet the factory specs? — Gary Dear Gary: Today there are many different oil designations. The letters HD in the oil industry can indicate different meanings for each oil company. You can interpret it as heavy duty or high detergent. As long as it is high quality oil and has the API logo and meets the oil spec designation required by the vehicle manufacturer, you are safe. Look on the oil container for the rating and com-

### AUTO DOCTOR

pare it to the rating in your man-ual. As of now, the SM rating is

pare it to the rating in your manual. As of now, the SM rating is the highest.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1998 Mazda 626. The car hesitates from a stop when I try to accelerate; it also runs rough on the highway. The computer shows nothing when I take it in for service. — Cheryl Dear Cheryl: Whenever I get a complaint like yours, my first step is to drive the vehicle to confirm the problem. Then I'll hook up a scan tool, fuel pressure gauge and take it out for a road test. I require that information before attempting replacement of

parts. The hesitation you describe can be caused from low fuel pressure, early EGR valve operation, weak spark, lazy throttle position sensor or idle speed motor.

Deer Doctor: | purchased a new Ford Taurus wagon in 2004. Shortly after delivery, I felt a rapid vibration in the gas pedal. I took the car to the dealer and they repaired it. Now 20,000 miles later, the same feeling is back again. What can cause this problem? — John

Dear John: In order for you to feel vibration coming from the gas pedal, there has to be a mechanical contact between the gas pedal assembly, cable or throttle body. Start with an inspection at the throttle body and work back to the gas pedal bracket assembly un-

has been bucking, lurching and losing power. The recent repairs are to ignition switch and harness, plus a tune-up including distributor replacement. The battery failed and was replaced. Could the battery have been the problem? Could a failing battery be kept alive by daily driving? — Daniel Dear Daniel: Let's start with the battery question. A weak battery will cause the electronics of any fuel-injected vehicle to misbehave. A weak battery can start the engine and be kept alive with daily driving until it has total failure. Fact: One out of four vehicles on the road need a battery replacement. Back to your bucking condition: I suggest someone hook up the proper test equipment and get the car on a road test with the equipment connected. I have replaced a lot of fuel injectors. Dear Doctor: Late mileage in both of my we decreased. Are the elic playing around with the — Jerry

Dear Jerry: The gamula changed in the foold work the cold weather. The gase in the cold weather. The gase of the cold weather. The gase of

### **WEEKLY SALES**

### ALAMEDA

1035 Begonia Dr - \$650,000
1605 Buena Vista - \$805,000
1816 Chestnut St - \$490,000
3241 Encinal Av - \$730,000
308 Lina Av - \$1,088,500
1007 Morton St - \$1,330,000
3151 Mound St - \$534,000
301 RL Stevenson - \$1,147,000
2114 Santa Clara Av - \$890,000
489 Santa Clara Av - \$545,000
487 Santa Clara Av - \$546,000
428 Shell Qate Rd - \$680,000
2101 Shoreline 464 - \$460,000
3226 Thompson Av - \$956,000
617 Waterview Isle - \$930,000

1032 Evelyn Av - \$543,500 1034 Evelyn Av - \$540,000 614 Masonic Av - \$545,000 535 Pierce St 3113 - \$395,000 639 Santa Fe Av - \$765,000

2335 10th St C - \$430,000
1716 10th St - \$651,000
2327 7th St - \$625,000
2421 7th St - \$625,000
2421 7th St - \$535,000
1812 9th St - \$568,000
700 Arlington - \$830,000
1865 Capistrano - \$900,000
2537 Chilton Wy - \$613,000
1014 Delaware St - \$820,000
2756 Dohr St - \$460,000
1600 Fairview St - \$733,000
1251 Gilman St - \$602,000
1151 Grizzly Peak - \$757,500
382 Hearst Av - \$580,000
1107 High Ct - \$501,000
2112 Los Angeles - \$800,000
2105 McGee Av - \$590,000
2247 Oregon St - \$670,000
1137 Parker St - \$620,000
2132 Sacramento - \$615,000
535 San Fernando - \$762,000
180 Tamalpais Rd - \$875,000

### EL CERRITO

813 Elm St - \$375,000 1725 Liberty 7 - \$315,000

### EL SDERANTE

5483 Brookwood - \$790,000 405 Joan Vista St - \$315,000 4109 Miflin Av - \$429,000 5253 Sobrante Av - \$680,000

### EMERYVILLE

1538 Brunswig - \$660,000

### KENSINGTON

15 Arlington Ln - \$610,000 249 Cambridge Av - \$775,000 420 Coventry Rd - \$1,237,500

### DAKLAND

649 22nd St - \$565,000
123 5th St - \$325,500
5907 Bernhard - \$410,000
5108 Caddle Ct - \$621,500
200 Flagship Ct - \$834,000
856 Lassen St - \$372,000
620 Rock Rose - \$712,000
524 Seacliff Pl - \$990,000
105 Seaview Ct - \$750,000
635 S. 20th St - \$450,000
432 S. 34th St - \$450,000
1228 S. 36th St - \$450,000
1228 S. 56th St - \$450,000
1228 S. 56th St - \$510,000

### SAN LEANDRO

AN LEANDRO

1661 163rd Av - \$350,000
14871 Boulevard - \$630,000
1105 Carnellia Ct - \$705,000
505 Castro St - \$680,000
1512 Coral Av - \$620,000
14827 Corvallis St - \$500,000
14827 Corvallis St - \$500,000
1381 Devonshire - \$695,000
509 Dolores Av - \$556,500
539 Dutton Av - \$645,000
2259 Gavia Ct - \$600,000
879 Harlan St - \$638,000
15678 Maubert Av - \$482,000
15678 Maureen St - \$530,000
15459 Maureen St - \$530,000
1574 Pacific Av - \$464,000
1950 Randy St - \$699,000
1374 Pacific Av - \$464,000
1950 Randy St - \$563,000
2358 Spinnaker Ct - \$790,000
733 St. Marys Av - \$485,000
2062 Trombas Av - \$485,000
2120 W. Av 135th - \$890,000

# /85 22rd St - \$637,000 2944 56th Av - \$574,000 1033 56th St - \$500,000 1033 56th St - \$500,000 1033 56th St - \$500,000 1036 22nd Av - \$492,000 443 62nd St - \$675,000 958 62nd St - \$675,000 958 62nd St - \$422,000 1857 78th Av - \$465,000 2042 80th Av - \$475,000 1052 42alanes - \$490,000 7839 Alder St - \$330,000 428 Alice St 721 - \$550,000 428 Alice St 837 - \$665,500 6110 Aspinwall - \$849,000 1938 Auseon Av - \$301,000 5816 Ayala Av - \$565,000 4029 Balfour Av - \$455,000 6101 Bancroft Av - \$477,000 2952 Barrett St - \$497,000 2952 Barrett St - \$497,000 2952 Barrett St - \$497,000 2952 Barrett St - \$499,000 1011 Bancroft Av - \$487,000 2952 Canyon Oaks B - \$442,500 2375 Church St - \$429,000 2240 Coolidge Av - \$635,000 4121 E. 18th St - \$326,000 1801 E. 24th St - \$465,000 1323 E. 25th St - \$345,000 1419 E. 32nd St - \$525,000 1419 E. 32nd St - \$476,000 9057 Fontaine St - \$476,000 1981 Harrington Av - \$380,000 5541 Harry Av - \$512,000 3409 Haven St - \$575,000 7606 Hillmont Dr - \$865,000 1020 Jackson 202 - \$350,000 1020 Jackson 202 - \$456,000 1756 Manzanita Dr - \$1,400,000 4001 Maybelle Av - \$699,000 6529 Liggett Dr - \$775,000 5630 Liggent Dr - \$775,000 5641 Harry Av - \$575,000 7606 Hillmont Dr - \$860,000 1760 Manzanita Dr - \$1,400,000 4001 Maybelle Av - \$480,000 4001 Maybelle Av - \$480,000 4010 Maybelle Av - \$575,000 1766 Harranita Dr - \$1,400,000 4010 Maybelle Av - \$575,000 1766 Harranita Dr - \$1,400,000 4010 Maybelle Av - \$575,000 1766 Hillmont Pr - \$640,000 4010 Maybelle Av - \$480,000 4010 Maybelle Av - \$575,000 1766 Hillmont Pr - \$990,000 6050 Old Quarry Lp - \$640,000 4010 Maybelle Av - \$575,000 1766 Hillmont Pr - \$990,000 6050 Old Quarry Lp - \$640,000 4088 Pleasant Valley - \$75,000 1766 Alancanita Dr - \$1,400,000 4010 Maybelle Av - \$750,000 1835 Myrtle St - \$799,000 6050 Old Quarry Lp - \$640,000 307 Santa Clara Av 2 - \$276,000 308 Elmhurst - \$240,000 308 SAN LORENZO

1867 Corte Enano - \$570,000 457 Crespi PI - \$580,000 190 Loma Verde Dr - \$400,000 17269 Via Estrella - \$539,000 15867 Via Pinale - \$632,000

### By the numbers

### ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 16 LOWEST PRICE: \$460,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,330,000 MEDIAN PRICE: \$805,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$820,531

### ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 5 LOWEST PRICE: \$395,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$765,000 MEDIAN PRICE: \$543,500 AVERAGE PRICE: \$557,700

TOTAL SALES: 23 LOWEST PRICE: \$430,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$900,000 MEDIAN PRICE: \$651,000

### AVERAGE PRICE: \$670,283

# EL CLIBITO

EL SORRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 2 LOWEST PRICE: \$315,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$375,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$345,000

### BURNALIN

TOTAL SALES: 3 LOWEST PRICE: \$610,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,237,500 MEDIAN PRICE: \$775,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$874,167

### PEDMOST

TOTAL SALES: 4 LOWEST PRICE: \$960,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,180,000 MEDIAN PRICE: \$1,140,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,082,500

TOTAL SALES: 18 LOWEST PRICE: \$332,500 HIGHEST PRICE: \$990,000 MEDIAN PRICE: \$515,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$588,500

### SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 23 LOWEST PRICE: \$350,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$890,000 MEDIAN PRICE: \$600,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$591,543

TOTAL SALES: 5 LOWEST PRICE: \$400,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$632,000 MEDIAN PRICE: \$570,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$544,200

In is list is provided by California Resource, a real estate information company that obtains the Information from the County Recorder's Office. Neither California Resource nor this newspaper guarantees the completeness or accuracy of the information, All questions should be directed to CalREsource@ aol.com.

## The Paris to Beijing drive demonstrates diesel capabili

BY DAVE VAN SICKLE

A few years ago, most consumers scoffed at the forecast that worldwide demand for fuel supplies would increase prices. Things change, and the most intelligent forecasts say that fuel demand and prices will continue to escalate.

Now that fuel prices are not likely to go down, the race is on among all of the international automakers to bring more fuel-efficient vehicles to market. Ignoring the current stampede toward premium-priced hybrids, several automakers are focused on a more realistic alternative for fuel economy: Diesels.

Recently, Mercedes-Benz, finished a monumental undertaking of a drive from Parls to Beijing. The journey involved 36 diesel-powered E-Class sedans, driven over 8,450 miles, in five stages, by 360 drivers from 35 countries. The fleet for the long-distance route was made up of production E-Class models, some of which had the four-wheel 4MATIC. In addition to 33 E320 CDIs, the field also included three E-Class sedans with BLUETEC, all three driven by American auto writers. This trip was no small undertaking. In addition to the 36 official E320s, a support fleet of an additional 36 various vehicles tagged along. That included a communications van that tracked every vehicle, numerous (unneeded) breakdown and collision crews, camera crews, a tire repair truck and finally a tanker that supplied certified low-sulfur fuel for the diesels in parts of the world where nothing like that is available.

On the surface, the drive was simply a recreation of the first transcontinental car race in history, which ran between Beijing and Paris 99 years ago. On that occasion, the aim of the French initiators was to demonstrate the technical superiority of the car over the horse.

The purpose of this trip was to demonstrate the superiority of diesel vs. gasoline power. According to Dr. Dieter Zetsche, chairman of the DaimierChrysler Board of Management and head of the Mercedes Car Group, "Seventy years after Mercedes-Benz launched the diesel englie in car production, we want to demonstrate the interns of emis

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mills — in gusty states such as North Dakota, Kansas and Texas. He sings the glories of bicycling and recycling, of geothermal heating and solar rooftops. And he bad-mouths ethanol.

Sounding like a dramatic reading of an Al Gore movie script, Brown enumerates the threats: Global warming. Shrinking forests. Expanding deserts. Falling water tables. "There is a long list of things that suggest we are in trouble," he says.

It's so quiet in the room you can hear ice melt.

sending out 1.5 million pounds of the sayear.

In 1955 he graduated from Rutgers University with a degree in agricultural science. He planned to return to the tomato business, but a six-month exchange program in India changed his life. In 1959 he moved to Washington and became an international analyst for the Department of Agriculture. He got advanced degrees from the University of Maryland and Harvard University,

After nearly a half-century of urban liv-

the future of biofuels based on an extrapo-lation from corn," says Reld Detchon, ex-ecutive director of the Energy Future Coali-ition, "that it could damage the development of biofuels as alternatives to gasoline in gen-eral." The coalition is seeking change in the country's energy policy to address oil de-pendence and climate change. "The production of food has never been

a limiting factor in world hunger," Detchon says. The problem has always been surpluses and distribution.

Brown's fallacy, Detchon says, is fixating on corn. The future of organic fuels is not in the growing of crops such as corn that feed people or animals, but of weeds and switch grasses that are inedible—and still make perfectly good fuel for machines.

"The energy market is so vast, it's not practical to expect that agriculture is on-



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duce emissions both of Nox and PM, which has led to the common rail engine design.

The common rail diesel engine stores fuel in a central chamber called a rail at high pressure and then injects the fuel into the engine's pistons at levels that depend on the car's running condition.

With electronic devices to precisely control the frequency and quantity of fuel being injected to keep the belance between high-and low-temperature combustion, the common rail engine has succeeded in reducing emissions of both NOx and PM.

NOx and PM.

NOx and PM.

NOx and PM are typical of harmful substances contained in car exhaust. NOx is the cause of photo-chemical smog and acid rain. PM, or black soot, causes respiratory problems.

Since 1992, Japan has strength-

chemical smog and acid rain. PM, or black soot, causes respiratory problems.

Since 1992, Japan has strengthened regulations on such emissions by gradually revising the safety standards under the Road Trucking Vehicle Law.

The current regulation is a long-term one implemented in 2005 that imposes different maximum allowable quantities on each of the hamful substances for gasoline- and diesel-powered cars.

The most strict standard is for diesel-powered cars.

The most strict standard is for diesel-powered vehicles weighing 3.5 tons or more, with the maximum allowable quantity being 2 grams of NOx and 0.027 gram of PM per kilowatt-hour of engine output.

In 2009, a stricter regulation to replace the 2005 one will be implemented, with the maximum allowable emissions to be cut by —two-thirds of today's standards.

The United States plans to drastically cut NOx emissions under regulations to be applied in

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percent of passenger cars sold by Japanese makers in Europe are diesel-powered.

Japan's current maximum allowable quantity of NOx in car emissions is, in the case of passenger cars, 0.05 g/kWh. In the 2009 new regulation, the maximum figure for PMs will be newly imposed on some models. The limit will be 0.005 g/kWh for passenger cars.

Gas-powered engines usually discharge relatively little PM, and catalysts in the engine can dissolve NOx. In addition, hybrid cars by Toyota and other Japanese makers emit less CO2 than normal gas engines by combining gas-powered engines with electric motors.

Many in the automobile industry see hybrid cars as a promising global strategic product for the future.

A Toyota official said the company's Prius hybrid models emit negligible quantitiles of PM and 0.013 gram or less of NOx per kiloniater.

The Prius models likely will be able to clear emission regulations in Japan, the United States and Europe even after standards are tightened, the official said.

It is a task for Toyota and other makers of hybrid cars to further im-

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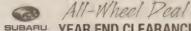
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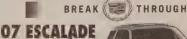
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# **Respiratory Care Practitioner**

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tt Bob Harrison at (925) 370-5261 for more information

## **Registered Dental Assistant**

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The Family, Maternal, and Child Health Program is seeking a Permanent Part-time Registered Dental Assistance position works independently and in partnership with other Children's Oral Health Program staff to coordin health case management services for underserved children and the recruitment and retention of dental proparticipate in programs for low-income children. Please fax a cover letter and resume to Family, Maternal, and Health Programs at (925) 313-6708.

# **Public Health Nurse**

56,201 - \$7,938/Month

The California Children's Services (CCS) Program is recruiting to fill several vacancies. Under general superogeneous incumbents perform nursing services at a variety of locations including clinics or the homes of acutely ill past throughout the county, in connection with the prevention and control of disease or adverse health conditions; and adults and children in accepted health practices including prevention and control of disease; and does other relevant as required. To obtain an application, please contact the Personnel Division at (925) 957-5240 or visit the Co-Costa County Human Resources website at www.cccounty.us/depart/hr.

### Charge Nurse

The Contra Costa Regional Medical Center is seeking a Night Shift Charge Nurse for the Level II Nurser and Pediatric units. The ideal candidate will have experience in all three areas as well as experience in precepting and orienting new employees, identifying educational needs of staff, and assisting with impolicies, procedures and equipment. Requires RN, NRP, PAL's and 3 years RN experience. Contact Marge 1925 370-5446 for more information

Health Services is also recruiting for the following classifications:

- MEDICAL RECORDS TECHNICIAN (\$3,101 \$3,961/Month)
- PUBLIC HEALTH MICROBIOLOGIST (\$4,648 \$5,381/Month)
- PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITIONIST (\$4,231 \$5,143/Month)
- SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH DENTAL ASSISTANT (\$2,808 \$3,413/M
- THERAPIST AIDE (\$3,300 \$4,011/Month)

To obtain application materials for the above classifications, unless other please contact Human Resources at (925) 335-1701 or visit

www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/depart/hr

www.cchealth.org



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# CHANCELLOR

The Board of Trustees of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District seeks a Chancellor who will provide strong administrative, fiscal and educational leadership with a high degree of credibility, intelligence, energy and creativity.

The Chancellor will provide educational vision to ensure student enrollment, retention and success; assist the Board of Trustees in developing and implementing long-range goals and objectives based on a strong economic plan; assume accountability for executing the District's voter-approved \$498 million Capital Facilities Bond Program; guide the resources toward the continued development of on-line education, workforce training centers and business community partnerships; continue to seek alternative sources of revenues to provide for the expansion of new educational programs and services; implement the District's newly created Internal Strategic Plan that defines organizational effectiveness, efficiency and creates an environment that promotes mutual respect between and among all District units.

- The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District is seeking a Chancellor who:

  •Is a person of integrity and is dedicated to the mission of serving a diverse student population;

  •Has a proven track record of fiscal responsibility, strong financial acumen and success in developing and implementing organizational efficiencies and cost-saving
- strategies;

   Has proven success in leading a complex capital building project;

   Will motivate others to participate in shared governance and collective bargaining within a climate of trust and teamwork;

   Will champion the use of technology in all appropriate areas that support teaching and learning strategies;

   Understands the dynamics of a complex multi-college district;

   Will work with elected officials on local, state and national levels in order to advocate the needs of the District and its colleges.

The ideal candidate will be required to possess:

An earned doctorate or other terminal degree from an accredited institution; a dynamic record of achievement in a large complex organization that includes administrative experience in a community college, other postsecondary education institutions, and/or business, industry, government, and/or non-profit organizations. Successful teaching and/or counseling experience is highly desirable.

Applications will be accepted until position is filled. However, the Chancellor Search Committee will begin reviewing applications on **Monday, March 19, 2007**. All nominations and applications should be submitted prior to that time. All inquiries, nominations, and applications will be held in strictest confidence.

For application information, please contact Mrs. Beverly Bailey at (925) 485-5207.

For confidential information about the position contact: Community College Search Services Dr. Kevin Ramirez Telephone: 530.878.4678 E-mail: kevmramirez@aol.com

Dr. Al Fernandez Telephone: 805.650.2546 Fax: 805.650.8469 Email: ccss@sbcglobal.net





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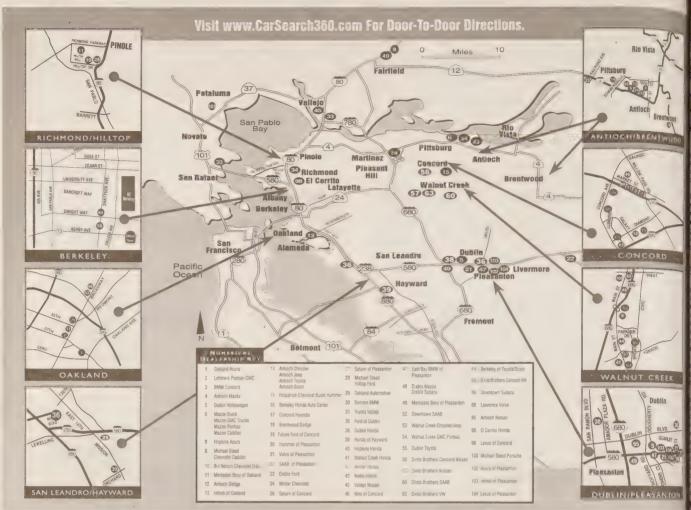
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# Turkey leftovers with a twist

holiday.

Looking for something the kids or grandkids will love? A savory Leftover Turkey Casserole wins the prize for ease and convenience. Pull up a chair and let your little ones spread the mashed potatoes. They can also help you stir leftover turkey, gravy and stuffing together and spoon it on top of the potatoes. And, if you don't have any of your famous, homemade gravy left, a jar of Heinz HomeStyle Roasted Turkey Gravy has a taste that's so close to homemade your guests won't know the difference. Thirty minutes later you have a leftover holiday dinner reinvented into a new one-dish meal. prep, these recipes elevate holiday leftovers to celebrity status. Leftovers — whether you love 'em, or hate 'em — everyone seems to ponder one thing: What do you do with them, especially after the holidays? You could eat turkey sandwiches every day for a week, or just give up and toss it out altogether. Better yet, you could transform those mounds of turkey, gravy and stuffing into something new and exciting. Consider a recipe for Turkey Tetrazzini. It puts a new twist on this perennial Italian favorite. This luxurious dish combines Wyler's Chicken Bouillon granules, butter, cream, white wine and freshly grated Parmesan cheese with you leftover turkey for a dish that's simple to make but elegant enough to serve for company. If you want to turn the ordinary into the extraordinary and like to flex your culinary muscles, try Turkey Croquettes. Your friends and family will never guess that the origin of these tasty French delicacies was your own humble turkey dinner. The recipe can add flair to any meal as hors d'oeuvres, a side dish or an entree. Just add Heinz Home-Style Roasted Turkey Gravy for dipping and a side of cranberry sauce — then sit back, relax, and call it a

### TURKEY TETRAZZINI

- TURKEY TETRAZZINI
  1/2 cup unsalted butter
  1/2 cup all-purpose flour
  3 cups hot water, combined
  with 1 tablespoon Wyler's Chicken
  Bouillon granules
  1/2 cup whole milk
  1/2 cup white wine
  1 cup heavy cream
  1/4 cup chopped parsley
  Salt and freshly ground black
  pepper to taste
  1 pound fettuccini, cooked al
  dente

I pound retuccini, cooked at dente

1 pound fresh mushrooms, halved and sautéed until tender
3 cups leftover turkey cubes
1 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese, divided
1-1/2 cups fresh breadcrumbs
Toasted almonds for garnish
Blend butter and flour in saucepan over low heat and cook, stirring constantly, 3 to 4 minutes. Add chicken broth, milk and wine.
Cook until thickened. Add cream and parsley and season to taste with salt and pepper. Combine with cooked fettuccini, mushrooms ith cooked fettuccini, mushrooms nd turkey. Mix in 1/2 cup Parme

## TURKEY CROQUETTES

Croquettes
1/2 cup chopped onion
3 tablespoons unsalted butter
1/4 cup all-purpose flour plus
1/2 cup additional for dredging
1/2 cup whole milk
1/2 cup water plus 1/2 teaspoon Wyler's Chicken Bouillon

granules
2 cups finely chopped, cooked

2 cups tinely dropped turkey
3/4 cup mashed potatoes
1/4 teaspoon paprika
1/2 teaspoon poultry seasoning
Pinch of nutmeg
Salt and freshly ground black
pepper to taste
1/4 cup chopped parsley
Coating

Coating
2 large eggs beaten with 1 taespoon water
1-1/2 cups dry seasoned bread



TURKEY TETRAZZINI.



LEFTOVER TURKEY CASSEROLE.



TURKEY CROQUETTES.

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# ive can't-miss tips for nightening your bathroom

to freshen your is good. tired bathroom cost big bucks leks either. Sure, budget and papout a wall and ops, go for it. But with a more mode are five easy rold bath a new ne.

ay to hear the nece.
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iritually any budheme. Replacing
as simple as turn-

sem obvious that an easy way to r bath. lors can create ex-part a whole new a space. But don't nting can brighten

you brighten its appearance with a fresh coat. Remember to use a seml-gloss paint in high moisture areas.

3. Turn your bathroom into a portal to somewhere else with a wall mural.

Easy-to-hang, cost-effective wallpaper wall murals can turn your bathroom into a tropical resort or an Italian villa. Get creative with placement of your mural. Snug a Renaissance-style court-yard on the wall behind the commode. Or splash a sunset beach scene in a bathtub alcove.

Specialty Web site Murals Your Way offers thousands of images and custom sizing — from palm tree accented beach scenes to city scapes, undersea adventures and inspiring nature scenes. To learn more about cost-effective, easy-to-install wall murals, and for ideas on how to incorporate them into your bathroom project, visit www.muralsyourway.com.

4. Dress up your soft goods. Toss out every torn, frayed or faded towel in your linen closet (and we all have them). You can splurge and invest in a quality set of Egyptian cotton towels from a home design store. Or, hit the local discount store and stock up on bright, fun colors and patterns. Create a cohesive theme by co-



ordinating towels, window treatments and shower curtain.
5. Flx your fixtures.
Replacing worn or dated fixtures is an easy — and much cheaper — way to create a whole new look for your bathroom vanity. You may not be able to afford

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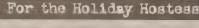


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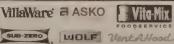
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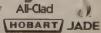
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# 'A Christmas Story' house is now Cleveland's newest tourist attraction





THE HOUSE ON W. 11TH ST. in Cleveland, Ohio, that was used in the filming of "A Christmas Sk has been refurbished and open to the public along with a museum dedicated to the movie.



BRIAN JONES STANDS IN THE DINING ROOM of the house on W. 11th St. in Cle

available for parties of 20 or more.
To get there, take Interstate 71 and exit at West 14th Street. Turn right onto Rowley Avenue and right onto West 11th Street.
Hours for the house will be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays. Starting Jan. 16, the house will be closed Wednesdays as well as Mondays and Tuesdays.
More information is at www. achistmasstoryhouse.com or 216-





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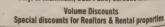
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education are integral components of the program. Junior high students are encouraged to participate in the after school competitive sports program.

Applications for the 2007-2008 school year are being accepted. Tour reservations and evaluation dates are scheduled in advance. education

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science, and,
n language,
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dates are scheduled in
advance.

Contact the main office at
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### GRAYSON WOODS GOLF COURSE

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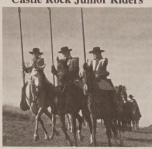
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### **CASTLE ROCK**

School documentary fe Castle Rock Junior Riders



Junior Riders reent trek from Mexico to What better way to learn about early Spanish California history than to live it? Sure, these kids studied the California Missions in the third grade, but they didn't how the west was settled until they dressed like Spanish colonist and rode the dusty trail themselves.

On Friday, November 10, 2006, about 20 juniors, sponsored by Castle Rock Arabians, had an opportunity to ride in the steps of the Spanish Explorer, Juan Bautista de Anza who led 268 colonists from Sonora, Mexico (then known as New Spain) to northern California to settle the city of San Francisco, establish a fort

contra Costa County.

and build a mission. Then Anza explored Contra Costa County where the hills looked pretty much the same then as it does now—thanks to our great East Bay Regional Park District open space!

Since 168 of these intrepid travelers were children under the age of 11, it was appropriate for this expedition to include our junior riders who are called the Amigos de Anza Mounted Drill Team.

For information on being a part of the Amigos de Anza or to learn to ride and be a part of our ranch activities, call 925 937 7661 or check our website at: www.castlerockarabians.com.

EBISA (East Bay Independent Schools Association) is an alliance of over 40 East Bay independent schools repre-senting a wide range of educational choices. Common to all is the utmost commitment to establishing and maintaining a diverse population of families and students, including differences in race, nationality, culture, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, family structure, physical abilities and modes of learning.

Finding the right environment for your child's education makes a world of dif-EBISA (East Bay adependent Schools Associ-

ference. At an independent school, you'll find an environment that nurtures intellectual curiosity, stimulates personal growth, and encourages critical thinking and innovation.

Independent schools are committed to providing students from pre-kindergarden through eighth grade with a unique and high-quality education and to helping young people develop not only as students, but also as well-rounded individuals.

To find a school that is the

To find a school that is the right fit for your child, visit www.ebisaca.org.

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Grades K-12

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Contra Costa Christian Schools has served Christian families from across the East Bay region for over 25 years. Students from preschool through high school are challenged by an excellent academic curriculum and thrive in the school's caring environment. Contra Costa Christian Schools is known for placing graduates in top

colleges across the nation.
In addition to outstanding In addition to outstanding classes taught from a Biblical perspective, students are ablé to participate in a wide variety of extracurricular activities beginning at the elementary school level. Sports, drama, choir, band, and academic competitions are just a few of the many opportunities available. Students are taught to engage culture while serving God & others. Families at Contra Costa Christian come from a wide variety of Christian denominations. A partnership between the family and school, alongside the church, fosters an environment where students flourish academically, socially, and spiritually. classes taught Biblical p from

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Nestled in the hills of Wildcat Canyon on 11 acres, the East Bay Waldorf School is one of the best-kept secrets in the region, especially the high school. Waldorf education inspires students to become creative thinkers & problem-solvers.

The Waldorf high school curriculum meets the unique needs of adolescents with rigorous academics, artistic discipline, and practical challenge. The sciences, humanities, and arts interweave to form an integrated whole, & includes visual and performing arts, Spanish and German, foreign exchange, music, sports, and clubs. The class size & the faculty's personal approach offer young people

the support they need to meet the demands of the modern age with confidence, competence, and initiative.

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Discover Waldorf's unique K-12 developmental approach that the President of the NAIS called "the educational model for the 21st century." Central school bus routes and financial aid are available. Call 510-223-3570, ext. 2105, for information or to RSVP the 3570, ext. 2105, for information or to RSVP the K-12 Open House, January 6



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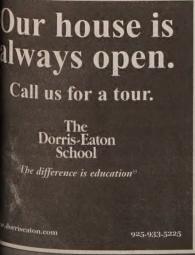
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these gifts will ensure."
Then jolly St. Nick having emptied his load,
started his truck and took to the road.

all a green thumb." (A gem from the Koryta Col-

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# 'Twas the Night Before A Gardener's Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the yard.
The branches were bare and the ground frozen hard.
The roses were dormant and mulched all around.
To protect them from damage if frost heaves the ground.
The perennials were nestled all snug in their beds.
While visions of 5-10-10 danced in their heads.
The new planted shrubs were soaked by the hose.
To settle their roots for the long winter doze.





protected the roots for the

Then what to my wondering eyes should appear, but a truck full of gifts of gar-

but a truck full of gifts or gardening gear.
Saint Nick was the driver — the jolly old elf.
And he winked as he said, "I'm a gardener myself.
I've brought cloud cover, rootone and gibberellin, too.
Father can try them and see what they do.
To seed your new lawn I've a patented sower.
In case it should grow, here's a new power mower.
For seed planting days, I've

trowel and a dibble.
And a roll of wire mesh if the rab-bits should nibble.
For the feminine gardener, some gadgets she loves:
Plant stakes, a sprinkler and wa-terproof gloves.
A chemical agent for her com-post pit.

post pit.

And for pH detecting, a soil test-

ing kit.
With these colorful flagstones lay a new garden path, for the kids to enjoy a bird feeder and bath.
And last but not least some rotten manure.
A Green Christmas year round,

flaps. Fold down the top flap creasing around the top edge; bring up the bottom flap, creasing around the bottom edge. Fold under a small bit of the bottom flap to create a smooth line. Secure with double-sided tape.

7. Think out of the box — literally. Personalize your packages with bunched bows, cut flowers, wide ribbons bent in geometric shapes, old photos used as gift tags, or small gift items added into the trim, such as a pen, address book or tiny picture frame.

For more information, visit www.papyrusonline.com.

How to wrap anything crepe. Sturdier standard papers work well on boxed gifts.

2. Gather the following tools: scissors, two-sided tape, ruler and/or tape measure, hole punch and stapler.

3. Select a clean, flat, hard surface. Carpeted or upholstered areas can make the process more difficult.

4. Measure the gift to be wrapped, and then add 4 inches to

With the Holiday season right around the corner, Papyrus, the specialty premium retail stationery business, has compiled the following tips to help you wrap any gift on your list.

1. Before purchasing decorative paper, consider the gift to be wrapped. Oddly shaped packages are much easier to wrap in soft papers such as tissue or

the width and 1 1/2 inches to the length. This will ensure coverage once the paper is cut to size.

5. Place the gift upside down on the wrapping paper allowing the seam to end up on the bottom of the package. Bring the paper around the box and pull taut; the two sides of the paper should overlap slightly. Fold under small bit of top flap to create a smooth line and secure with double-sided tape.

tape.
6. Fold in each side creasing around the edges of the box. Sharply crease the diagonal edges formed on the top and bottom

hole House Sp 2750\* And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could Call for Free Estimate 925-689-6600 from "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" by Dr. Seuss The Place Where Contractors Shop • Expertins EVERYDAY LOW PRICES GUARANT

it be so? It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags. And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more.

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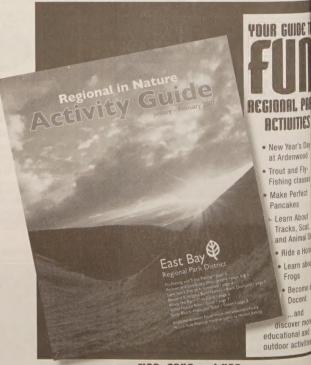


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By David Chee, Certified Public Accountant

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Dining Services Manager.

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# **Doctors' Center for Hearing Services is** One of First in Nation to Receive Training on Smart New Starkey Hearing System

ystem is only one to n hearing aid users ordess, more natural ring more quickly

CA 9/I/O6 - Doctors' for Hearing Services of Area today announced successfully completed on Starkey Laboratories' on Starkey Laboratories' nary new hearing sys-th, at long last, provides id users with more natu-normal hearing - more he new Starkey hearing includes the Destiny line hearing aids, the intui-ple OS software, and proprietary nFusion gy

dustry first, Starkey's ng system leverages the nanoscience - science at

the molecular level - to pack more features than ever into the Destiny hearing aid. Destiny is the only line of hearing aids in the world to offer three specific features that address users' more company complaints, including features that address users' most common complaints, including Active Feedback Intercept, which gets rid of \*f\*at annoying whistling sound often associated with wearing hearing alds; a Directional speech Detector, which lets users hear exactly what they want to hear; and Acoustic Signature, which automatically adjusts for and switches to different listening environto different listening environ-ments. With these features, Destiny offers hearing aid wear-ers the most natural and pow-erful hearing of any hearing ald available today. Doctors' Center for Hearing Services of the Bay Area 2169 Appian Way, #202, Pinole, CA 94564 510-724-6519

About Starkey Laboratories

About Starkey Laboratories
Privately held Starkey
Laboratories, Inc. is a consumertechnology company headquartered in Eden Prairle, Minn.
The company is recognized for
its innovative design, development, and distribution of
comprehensive digital listening
systems. Founded in 1967, Starkey
currently has more than 4,000
employees and facilities in 18
countries. For more information,
visit www.starkey.com visit www.starkey.com



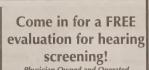
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# DIAMOND TERRACE RETIREMENT

# How Do You Know When It's Time To Move?

Have you decided "kitchen closed" — someone else should cook for you?

Are traffic jams and fighting for parking spaces stopping you from driving?

Are you alone when all of your neighbors are working? Do you want a place without stairs?

Are you tired of calling the repairman? Have you started feeling like a burden to your family?

Do you think it's time to retire from home maintenance chores?

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Do you no longer feel safe alone?

Have you realized the time has come to find the gold in the golden years?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then it's time to call Candace at (925) 524-5100.



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### GIFT IDEAS HOLIDAY



"Through the Animal's Eyes: A Story of the First Christmas," by Christopher Wormell, Running Press Kids, \$18.95.
Award-winning illustrator Christopher Wormell's stunning and unique take on the Nativity story will surprise and delight readers young and old. From dogs watching over the shepherds' flocks when angels appear, to a charmed cobra performing in Herod's court as the king tries to deceive the wise men, Wormell's trademark animal imagery brings a new perspective to the story of the first Christmas. Full-color illustrations for the majesty in nature.



booties, these cozy and stylish pat-terns make the most of big needles and cuddly, chunky yarns, so busy knitters can make the most of their valuable time. There's a pattern here for every skill level and for

every occasion.
With the help of simple diagrams and photos of each finished project, a comprehensive techniques section, and straightforward language throughout (none of those confusing abbreviations), "Speed Knitting" makes it a pleasure to whip up warm and woolly masterpieces.



"You're the Cook! A Guide to Mixing It Up in the Kitchen," by Katie Wilton, \$13.95.

"You're the Cook!" is designed for the inexperienced 9-14 year of the mexperienced 9-14 year of yea



sivais, Chronicle Books, \$19.95

sivais, Chronicle Books, \$19.95.
A popular art form, the glamorous paintings of Mexican calendar girls have a long and fascinating history — as advertisements, enticements and emblems of Mexican cultural heritage and pride. The result of years of research, this playful and informative book reproduces more than 150 vibrantly colorful calendar images, plus archival photographs and other materials that illuminate their creation.

A fully bilingual text gives an overview of the calendars' social and cultural history, along with biographies of the talented artists who created them. Also including a foreword by Mexican cultural critic Carlos Monsiváis, "Mexican Calendar Girls" presents this popular art as never before.



"Optical Illusions: The Science

of Visual Perception," by Al Seckel, Firefly Books, \$24.95.
Seeing is not always believing. "Optical Illusions" is an intriguing collection of baffling images and shapes that change before your eyes: hidden figures, incredible designs and dazzing graphic patterns. The book includes such well-known optical Illusions as Shepard's Tabletop, Wade's Spiral, the Floating Finger illusion, Ames Room and Rubin's Face/ Vase Illusion. There are more than 275 Illusions in all, with explanations of each image and notes about the science of visual perception.

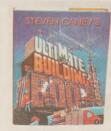
tography, artwork and computer imaging, and its huge variety of themes and effects, "Optical Illusions" dazzles both the mind and



"NASCAR Now!," by Timothy ler and Steve Milton, Firefly

"NASCAR Now!," by Timothy Miller and Steve Milton, Firefly Books, \$246.95.

NASCAR is big business. Every year NASCAR attracts six million spectators to racetracks nationwide. The televised races reach 105 million homes, second only to NFL football in the national ratings. "NASCAR Now!," with the help of 150 action color photos, is an entertaining, informative guide that describes the other "national pastime" and its top



"Steven Caney's Utilmate BuildIng Book," by Steven Caney, Running Press Kids, \$29.95.

Ever wonder how a suspension
bridge can cross a gap thousands
of feet wide? Want to know how to
build a comfortable lounge chair
out of cardboard boxes? Or what
keeps a massive cathedral dome
from collapsing?

Discover the answers to these
and many more questions in
"Steven Caney's Utilmate Building
Book," a comprehensive exploration
of design, construction, and invention that will stimulate the curiosity
of children and adults alike. Much
as David Macaulays "The Way
Things Work" did for machines and
devices a decade ago, this book details the ins and outs of construction
in all its fascinating forms.
Packed with building projects
guaranteed to engage anyone from
age 4 to 104, the "Ultimate Building
Book" gives easy-to-follow instructions for creating amazing models
and toys that are as much fun to
make as they are to play with.
Readers are also introduced to
a wide variety of household materials and tools that can be used for
building, along with insights into
the architectural and design properties of everything from drinking
straws to yurts.



"I'm Dreaming of Som Chocolate: Christmas Ref with a Little Holly & a Jolly," by Rhonda Rhea, \$10.99.

Where's the sleep in he peace? During the busy holds son, it's easy to overinduge temporary and starve outs the eternal. "I'm Dreaming of White Chocolate" will review ruse Christmas spirit. Filled wrageous humor and poigrant from scripture, this book offer the christmas spirit. Filled wrageous humor and poigrant from scripture, this book offer the christmas spirit. Filled wrageous humor and poigrant from scripture, this book offer sable. Brief, stand-alone of provide a touch of heavenly as readers escape from his stress and remember whath son is about.

"The New York Times call Guide to Practically thing: The Essential Comp for Everyday Life," edid Army and Peter Bernstein apert contributors. St. Merress, \$29.95.

How do I get on real show? Should I rent or by do I join the Peace Corpel kind of dog is right for my kind of dog is right for my kind of dog is right for my family? Find answ these and hundreds of questions in "The New York Practical Guide to Prac Everything."

### Sportswear from Fila for holiday giving

Fila develops, produces and distributes footwear, apparel and ac-ssories under eight distinct performance product categories: ten-s, running, mountain, golf, fitness and wellness, vintage and active

wear. Fila incorporates technology, high-end fabrics, and detailing as design elements, transparently interwoven to improve comfort and performance. Each footwear design takes into account the individuality of the performer. Apparel collections are tailored to complement the natural motion of the performer. All collections target both male and female consumers.







PAPER PATISSERIE, mini journal set, left, contains four paperbgack journals and retails for \$14.95. The stationery box includes 30 sheets and envelopes (6 designs repeating 5 times), above, and retails for \$14.95.

## **Delectable designs from Peculiar Pair Press**

CHROWICE BOOKS

This new line of gift products, created by Peculiar Pair Press, is inspired by old soap and Frenchy candy labels. Paper Patisserie will be savored by anyone who appreciates beautiful design and sumptuous color.

Peculiar Pair Press is graphic designers Mary Beth Fiorentino and Amy Hayson. They run a custom letterpress design firm in the San Francisco Bay Area.

# Holiday style goes to the dogs

DOGCOM

This holiday season, it's not the PS3 or the Chia Pet, its fashionable clothing for your pet. And the hottest fashions are coming from the "Luxe for Less," collection from Dog.com. This line features designer trends for pets with products like "Chewy Vuitton" and "Chewnell #5;" these products are stylish and practical, and even better, af

w with Dog com's new line Paris Hilton and Nicole Ritch



AUDREY HEPBURN-STYLE Hooded Chenille jacket, \$10.99

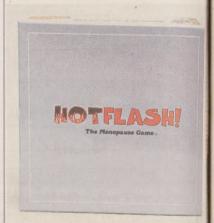
won't be the only ones walking around with stylish dogs in their designer purses, you too can bring celebrity fashion for pets to the masses by giving the glift of "Luxe for Less" products.

The products include "Pawtection Boots," starting at \$4.99; the stylish and sophisticated Audrey Hepburn-style Hooded Chenille jacket, \$10.99, and the Quilted Pet Carrier, \$21.99, that makes every trip to the vet, airport or grandma's house a fashion statement.

They serve as the perfect fashion accessory for the dog and the perfect gift for friends with dogs this holiday season.



"PAWTECTION BOOTS," starting at \$4.99.



HOTFLASH! THE MENOPAUSE GAME, suggested retail p

# For that special, mature woman in your life

Musician Kari Epstein, 45, was vacationing in 2002 whe her first hot flash; it turned out to be a flash of inspiration. If ing board games that night she thought of creating a "cheel ent" game to help women learn about menopause. She form pany, Dream On LLC, and developed Hotflash! The Menopau Designed for two to eight players, ages "39-for-the-fifs" "None-of-your-dang-business." The object is to move arour space board and be the first to reach "Hormone Free Haven." the way, there are plenty of twists and turns. At each roll olpayers answer questions and perform activities listed on cards, or laugh and learn about women's issues from Ramones cards.

Game includes: Game board, game rules, eight players.

mones cards.

Game includes: Game board, game rules, eight player to stands, one deck of 160 Raging Hormones cards, one deck flash! cards, two card holders and two dice.



## Holiday gift idea for kids who love to sing

"You Build It: Rock Star Microphone." by Marty Jo

"You Build It: Rock Star Microphone," by Marty Journal & Mayer, \$24.99.

Read all about it. This is no ordinary book it's just for kids love music. From understanding how a song is constructed to musical notes, from learning the 12 steps of recording a song tips on writing their very own words and music, kids will have reappreciation for the art and science of being a musician. Incheadset as well as a wireless transmitter that also mixes the music with the child's voice, Kids can personalize their mixer with the re-usable stickers included.